



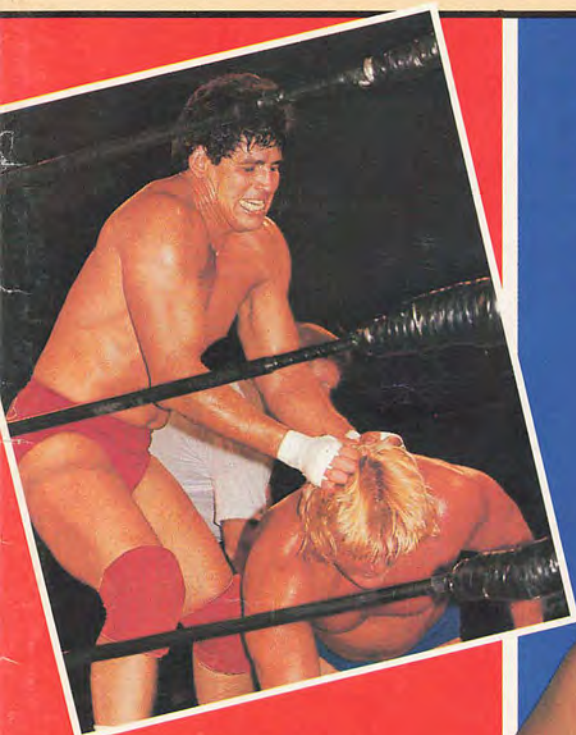
**Inside**

**Sgt. Slaughter vs. Ric Flair:  
WHY THE KREMLIN LOVED THIS MATCH!**

47727 December 1985

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# **Wrestling**



**Intercontinental  
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**THE RESURRECTION  
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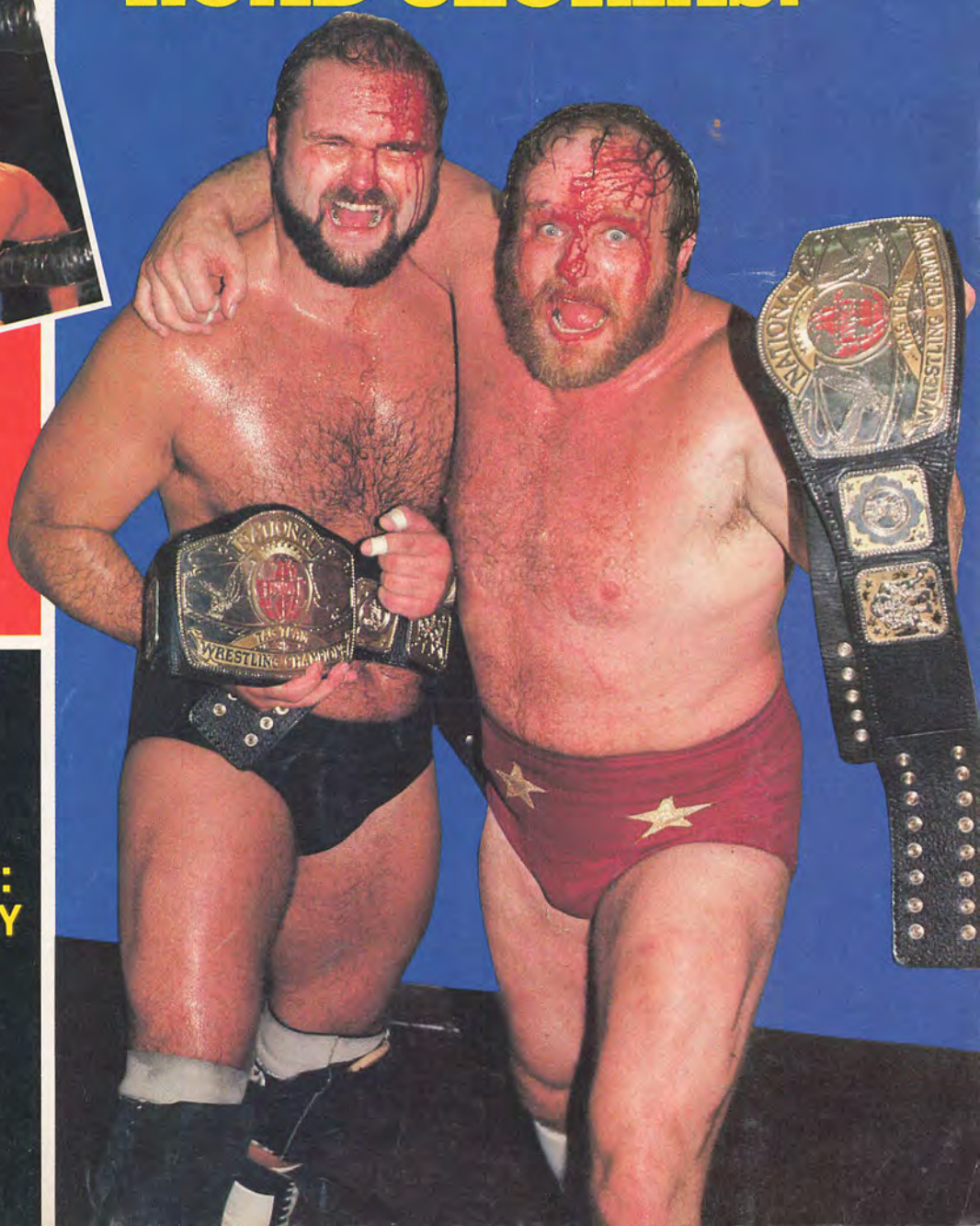
**The Nightmare Is Over!**

**DICK MURDOCH  
WINS THE NORTH  
AMERICAN TITLE**

**BRUISER BRODY:  
"I'M A MANIAC ONLY  
TO MY ENEMIES"**

**Arn & Ole Anderson  
Challenge Hawk & Animal:**

**"BRING ON THE  
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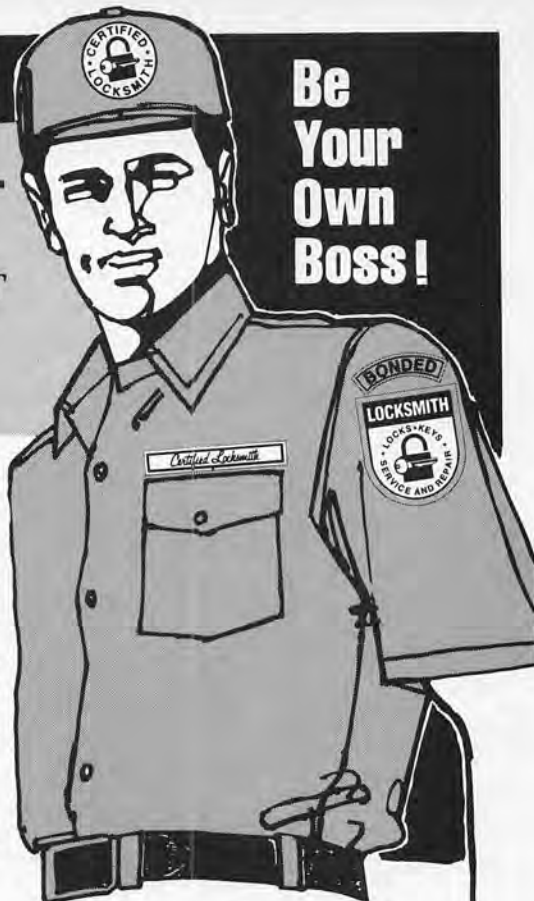


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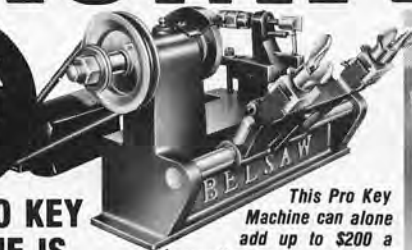
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INSIDE

# Wrestling

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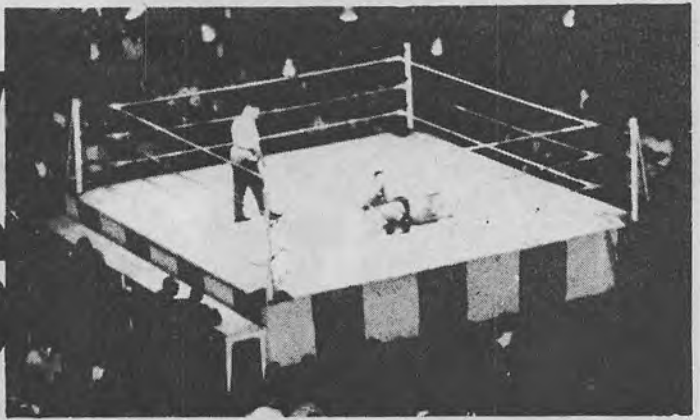


STORES!

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# SINCERELY YOURS

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## DON'T LOOK BACK

Recently on *Wrestling TNT*, top WWF managers Fred Blassie, Bobby Heenan, and Jimmy Hart were arguing among themselves about who would be the best manager for WWF newcomer Randy "Macho Man" Savage. Each of these managers came up with many reasons why he thought he was the best man for the job, but what really struck me was when Blassie boldly stated that he was the only one present who had ever managed a world champion, and Bobby Heenan said nothing. Has "The Brain" forgotten about Nick Bockwinkel, or has Vince McMa-

hon [the head of the WWF] requested that Heenan allow his AWA days to slip his mind? To me, denying one's past, especially a glorious past like Heenan's, is unforgivable. I wonder what Bockwinkel thinks about Heenan now.

BRUNO LAUER  
Penn Hills, PA

## WITH PANACHE AND FLAIR

I would just like to say thanks for a great "Hotseat" interview with the NWA World heavyweight champion, Ric Flair, in the September 1985 issue of *Inside Wrestling*.

I know that Flair is a very busy man and he is a champion who concentrates primarily on wrestling. A few months back, Flair appeared on a Philadelphia talk show along with Larry Zbyszko, Tully Blanchard, Baby Doll, and referee Dick Woherle. I was very pleasantly surprised that Flair would take time out from his busy schedule to appear on a talk show. Flair and the others spoke very seriously about wrestling on the show and I respect them for that.

Recently, I saw that bumbling fool, Hulk Hogan, appear on *The Tonight Show*, where he mouthed off to guest  
(Continued on page 47)



Bobby Heenan proudly grasps the AWA World title belt as he leads Nick Bockwinkel to the dressing room following a title defense in 1980. Heenan seems to have forgotten that the best years of his managerial career were in the AWA, points out reader Bruno Lauer.



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## SKINNY ISN'T ATTRACTIVE

If you don't think so, just watch what turns women's heads on the beach. They get turned on by well-built guys. They're the ones with the prettiest girls. It's a rare fellow who doesn't want to look good in his clothes and is happy with a skinny frame, who has not envied men who weighed a little more, had a better appetite and generally displayed a physical fitness that spoke of health and well-being. True, while doctors and nutrition specialists warn against being fat, very little is said about the equal or greater evils of being underweight. So there's more to it than cosmetic aspects. Skinny is not only unattractive. It is also unhealthy. Gaining weight could mean gaining health for you.

## GAIN STAMINA AND SELF-CONFIDENCE TOO.

Skinny men are not great lovers. That's a known fact. Add a few pounds and you'll be amazed how it will improve your love-life. Women know this and are conscious of the fact that skinny men can't go the distance. The race is to the strong, the saying goes. And the fellow who is handsomest doesn't look like a stand-in for the family skeleton. Many a man found that gaining a few more pounds has helped him overcome chronic illness, major or minor. Many a doctor has prescribed gaining weight. But so little is publicized about skinny men. The great amount of publicity given to coronary problems has brought the bulk of weight attention to those men who weigh too much. Men who weigh too little never really get equal time. But their problem is no less serious.

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# EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Peter  
King

Editor-in-Chief

Everyone has heard the expression, "He has turned his life around." This usually applies to a person who has sunk to the depths but has since made a dramatic change for the better. But this expression can also apply to someone like Ole Anderson, who has changed, but not for the better.

Yes, Ole Anderson "has turned his life around." Less than a year ago, he was one of the sport's most respected spokesmen. As a wrestler, Anderson fought the good fight, only targeting men who deserved his wrath. But today, Anderson is little more than a bully, a cold-hearted head-knocker whose main enjoyment comes from crippling innocent, inexperienced opponents.

Along with his cousin Arn, Ole holds the National tag team title, the very same title once owned by The Road Warriors. Years ago, Ole was instrumental in giving the Warriors their first break in wrestling. Today, Ole wants to give them another break—but this times it's their bones he wants to break.

Ole refused to talk to me for this column. At one time, I considered him a friend. Today, he is beneath contempt. His brutal tactics have made him successful, true, but the price is so very high. He has become an object of hatred by both the fans and his fellow wrestlers.

I've heard a rumor that The Road Warriors may take a few matches in the World Championship area. Supposedly, their manager, Paul Ellering, would like his team to regain the National tag team title as sort of a "special anniversary event." (The Warriors first won the National title in October 1982.)

As I journalist, I'm not supposed to take sides. I'm supposed to look at every wrestler and match objectively. And I do. Most times.

But I hope the Warriors teach Ole and Arn a painful lesson.





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# **'TOP SECRET'**

## **Behind the Dressing Room Door**

**by Stu  
Saks**

**I**T IS TIME for Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo to dump Capt. Lou Albano!

No, I am not blaming The Captain for Windham and Rotundo's recent loss of the WWF tag team championship to Greg Valentine and Brutus Beefcake. Not directly, at least.

Remember when Windham and Rotundo lost the WWF tag team title to The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff at WrestleMania in March? Albano received a lot of criticism in some circles for not preventing Freddie Blassie from passing the cane into the ring that would ultimately cost "The U.S. Express" their title. Nobody in the sport, these people reasoned, could devise more devious game plans than Albano, and he therefore should have realized that Blassie would try something.

The same critics are yelling even louder now that Windham and Rotundo have lost the title again under similar circumstances. This time, against Valentine and Beefcake, Johnny Valiant slipped Beefcake his lit cigar, which Brutus shoved into Rotundo's eye, setting him up for a pin by Valentine.

"For shame," the critics cry. "Once was bad enough, but a second time . . .?"

The most cynical of the cynics have concluded that Albano duped his wrestlers, the fans, and the media: that he never turned his life around, that he is still an evil man, that this whole change-over was a trick to further his managerial career.

I don't believe that for a second. Furthermore, I don't hold Albano responsible for the two occasions when his wrestlers were cheated out of their titles. I'm sure

*(Continued on page 58)*

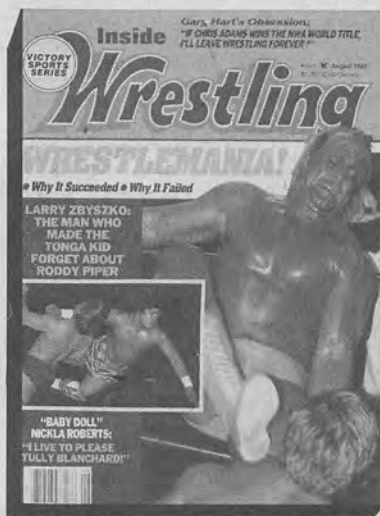


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**W**ANT TO BECOME a producer of videocassettes? No, you don't, unless you're willing to put up with long hours of frustration and aggravation. Let me tell you a story.

My mother is probably the only person on this Earth willing to do so, but if you follow her lead and closely check the credits for the *Lords of the Ring* videotape (advertised elsewhere in this magazine; order before midnight tonight), you'll see that yours truly is listed as "Writer" and "Associate Producer."

My mom is going to be very happy again, because the second *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*-sponsored videotape is out, and again I'm listed as "Writer" and "Associate Producer." *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Presents: Ringmasters—The Great American Bash* offers a solid hour of highlights from the July 6 Great American Bash card in Charlotte, North Carolina.

So why am I writing about a *PWI* videotape in the pages of *Inside Wrestling*?



John Burzichelli, Pat Warner, & Gordon Solie

Well, since the name of this column is "On The Road," and since I haven't really written about my experiences on the road *per se* in this column since the January 1985 issue (maybe I should have the logo reworked to read "Off The Road"), and since I had to travel from New York to Philadelphia with Bill Apter to work on *Ringmasters*, I figure—Why not?

If you look at the *Ringmasters* videotape, you'll see that, like *Lords of the Ring*, it's hosted by Gordon Solie and Bill Apter. Gordon and Bill's time on screen amounts to about six minutes total, but would you believe it took over eight straight hours in a television studio to tape those six minutes? It did.

Taping was scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. on a Friday morning. Bill and I took Amtrack to Philadelphia on Thursday afternoon, arriving at E.J. Stewart, a video production facility renowned for its work on dozens of television programs and commercials, Philadelphia Phillies games, and the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic games.

Co-producers John Burzichelli and Jeff Oddo of Inde-

## ON THE ROAD

with  
CRAIG PETERS

pendent Media Marketing, the production company handling *Ringmasters*, called a production meeting Thursday afternoon at 5 o'clock to be attended by John, Jeff, Bill, Gordon, and myself, along with Pat Warner (who would be captaining the controls in the production booth) and Miles Nelson (who would be acting as director for the shoot the next day). At the meeting, we discussed the script that Bill and Gordon would be working with. Believe it or not, six minutes of on-screen Bill and Gordon re-

quired *nine pages* of scripting.

With details of the script still being questioned ("Do we call him 'Dusty' or 'The American Dream' at this point in the script? Is Sam Houston a 'rookie' or a 'newcomer'?), the production meeting continued over dinner and into the evening.

Questions of linguistic detail are really more important than you might think. Wrestling fans who are familiar with *The Great American Bash* have to be provided information that they didn't know before, while at the same time viewers new to wrestling have got to be filled in on the basics of what happened there, and on the situations leading up to those matches—and it all had to be done in six minutes! It's a fine line to tread, and one that had to be maintained throughout the script.

At 9 a.m. Friday, Bill, Gordon, and I arrived at E.J. Stewart. Bill and Gordon were brought into a dressing room where they could change clothes and receive their makeup. By 10:30, shooting began.

The six minutes of Gordon and Bill were broken down into roughly 21 discrete segments, each of which required its own particular camera angles and lighting. Add to this the fact that several takes (sometimes as many as 12 or 14) were made on each segment, and that the script was literally being rewritten seconds before shooting, and you have a rough idea of the general chaos and confusion that surrounded the shooting. When all the shooting was over, there were about four solid hours of dialogue, out of which six minutes would have to be chosen.

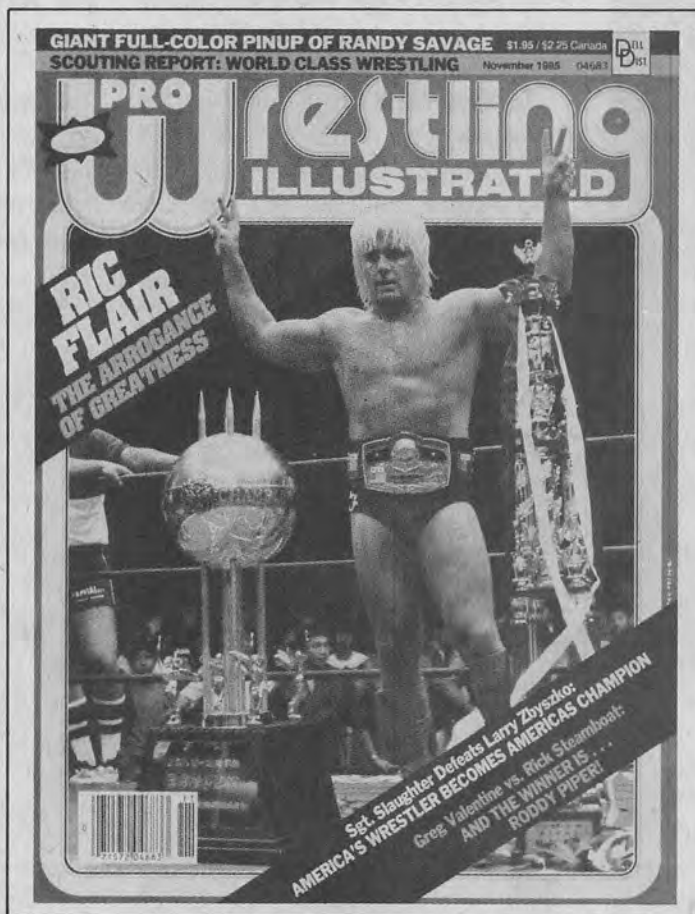
Bill, Gordon, and I left that Friday evening, but the work on the tape was just beginning. John, Jeff, Pat, and Miles had to spend long hours in the production studio taking the best six minutes from Friday's shooting and blending it smoothly with the match action tape from *The Great American Bash*. I'm sure any of those four could give you a bleary-eyed story about all-nighters at the video control boards, but that's another tale for another time.

Suffice to say, this is just a small glimpse at one dimension of producing a videocassette. If you multiply the events in this column by about 100, or maybe 150, you have a better idea of what was involved in bringing you *Ringmasters* and *Lords of the Ring*.

Still want to be a videocassette producer? □



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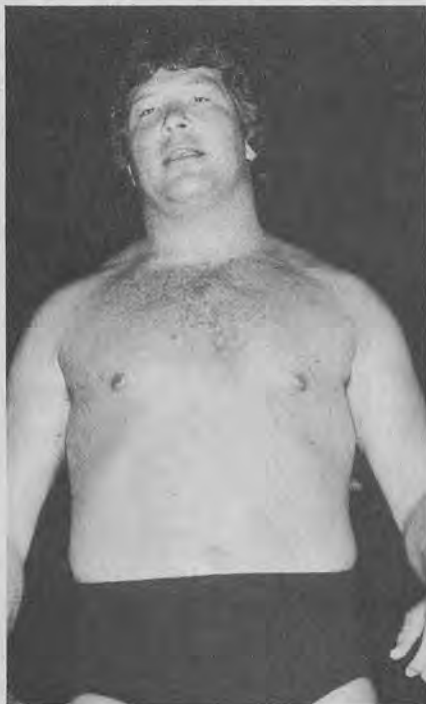
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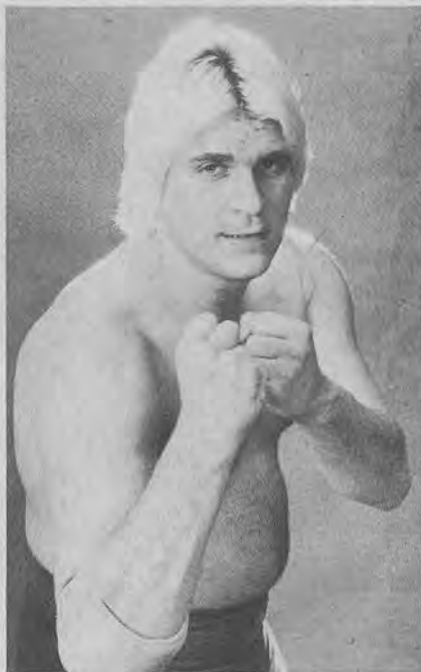
**TED DiBIASE**

When **Ted DiBiase** left the United States for a tour of Japan, his Mid-South tag team championship partner, **Steve Williams**, obtained power of attorney, which enabled him to legally choose **Bob Sweetan** as the man to help him defend the belts. Well, it didn't take long for Williams and Sweetan to lose the belts—to the team of **Al Perez** and **Wendell Cooley**. It was Perez who scored the pinfall on Williams following a belly-to-back suplex. We're certain that DiBiase is going to return from Japan fuming mad!

**Greg Valentine** and **Brutus Beefcake** are the new WWF tag team champions, having defeated **Barry Windham** and **Mike Rotundo** for the championship in Philadelphia. This is the second time that "The U.S. Express" has lost the WWF tag belts due to managerial interference: Beefcake's manager, **Johnny Valiant**, handed

Beefcake a lit cigar, which was rubbed into Windham's eye, allowing Valentine to move in and score the pin.

**Tommy Rich** seems to be on the comeback trail; "Wildfire" captured the Southeast Continental title from **The Flame** ... Have you seen the



**TOMMY RICH**

aggressiveness displayed by **Magnum T.A.** in recent matches? Incredible! ... Polynesian Pacific tag team champs, brothers **Rocky** and **Ricky Johnson**, have looked great in recent outings, and have defended their title in several exciting matches against **The Dirty White Boys**, **Len Denton** and **Tony Anthony**.

A most unlikely tag team has developed in the Mid-Southern area: **Jerry Lawler** and his archrival, **Phil Hickerson**, will be joining forces to drive **The Fabulous Freebirds** out of the Mid-Southern area. Lawler made sure to back Hickerson into a corner where he can't ambush "The King": If Hickerson turns on Lawler, he will have to

give Jerry not only his Mid-Southern heavyweight belt, but a \$5,000 cash bonus!

**Bruno Sammartino** was hit in the head with a chair by **Roddy Piper** at the Philadelphia Spectrum while refereeing a match between Piper and **Paul Orndorff**. Piper was aiming for



**BRUNO SAMMARTINO**

Orndorff and hit Bruno instead ... **Ricky Vaughn** recently defeated **Mike Miller** for the Pacific Northwest heavyweight title ... **Ric Flair's** \$20,000 bounty on **Wahoo McDaniel** is still in effect in Florida.

Here's an unusual title situation: Recently in Osaka, Japan, WWF junior heavyweight champ **Hiro Saito** went up against NWA Japanese junior heavyweight champ **The Cobra** (not to be confused with NWA junior heavyweight champ **Gary Royal**). Anyway, Saito won the match and Cobra's title. Later



# N' NEWS

Bill Apter  
reporting...

on the same card, Cobra challenged Saito to another match. Saito accepted, Cobra won by pinfall, and now Cobra holds both belts. That means Saito held both titles for only about an hour—that's got to be a record for the shortest title reign ever!

Rumor of the month from the AWA: I've heard that **Boris Zurkhov** ob-



**BORIS ZURKHOV**

tained some KGB "spy dust," and has been using it to keep tabs on the whereabouts of **Sgt. Slaughter** . . . Congratulations to **Ric Flair**, who recently was presented with the World Press Pro Wrestling Man of the Year award at New York's Studio 54 nightclub.

"**Dr. D**" **David Shultz** was recently flying from New York to Egypt—or should I say *attempting* to fly; 30 New York City policemen dragged Shultz off the plane because they said he was drunk, an allegation that Shultz ve-



**STAN HANSEN**

hemently denies. "I never drink," Shultz said . . . **Stan Hansen** recently captured the PWF title from **Shohei "Giant" Baba** in Fukuoka, Japan.

Have you seen the AWA program on the ESPN cable network? It's good to see cable's all-sports network finally realize what a ratings success wrestling can be! . . . Speaking of ratings, the most recent Arbitron ratings ranked Mid-South Wrestling the number one program in the Syndicated Sports Programming category—that includes all sports shows not carried on one of the three major networks, but shown in a minimum of 10 markets. The rest of the top five: Mid-Atlantic was number two, Mid-South's *Power Pro Wrestling* number three, World Class came in number four, and *This Week In Baseball* number five. Sorry, **Vince McMahon**, that's what people are

watching!

An interesting match recently took place in Chicago's Rosemont Horizon when **Ric Flair** pinned **Billy Robinson**. It's interesting because years ago, it was Robinson who taught Flair many of the basics of the sport! . . . Former partners **Jake "The Snake" Roberts** and **The Barbarian** are now involved in a vicious feud against each other. **Mid-South** fans are siding with The Snake in this brutal war . . . One of the bloodiest matches we've seen lately was a contest where Americas champion **Sgt. Slaughter** and his partner, **Greg Gagne**, squared off



**GAGNE & SLAUGHTER**

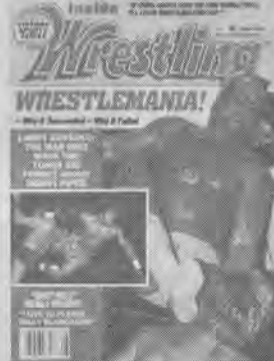
against **Nick Bockwinkel** and **Ray Stevens**; talk about going for blood!

That's all for now, wrestling fans. See you at the matches! □

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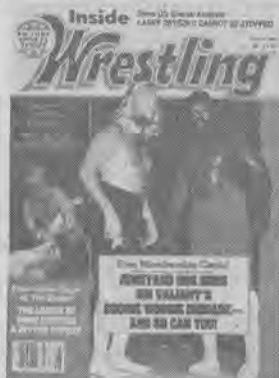
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## AUGUST 1985

**October 1979/Stories include:** Rich, Rhodes, Backlund, Putski.  
**November 1979/Stories include:** Snuka, Heenan, Race, Backlund.  
**February 1980/Stories include:** Patera, Snuka, Santana, Albano.  
**March 1980/Stories include:** Flair, Rich, Funk, Duncum.  
**April 1980/Stories include:** Hogan, Rich, Backlund, Mascaras.  
**May 1980/Stories include:** Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Bockwinkel.  
**June 1980/Stories include:** Putski, Andre, Hernandez, Keirn.  
**July 1980/Stories include:** Rhodes, Von Erich, Superstar, Blassie.  
**August 1980/Stories include:** Sammartino, Wrestling II, Baker, Koloff.  
**September 1980/Stories include:** Mascaras, Rhodes, Ladd, Iron Sheik.  
**November 1980/Stories include:** Rhodes, Putski, Bockwinkel, Koloff.  
**January 1981/Stories include:** Race, Snuka, Morales, Slater.  
**February 1981/Stories include:** Backlund, DiBiase, Bravo, Anderson.  
**April 1981/Stories include:** Albano, Sammartino Jr., Race, McGraw.  
**May 1981/Stories include:** Iron Sheik, Von Erich, Backlund, Santana.  
**June 1981/Stories include:** Rhodes, Hansen, Piper, Gagne.  
**September 1981/Stories include:** Patera, Koloff, Khan, Junkyard Dog.  
**November 1981/Stories include:** Rhodes, Santana, Andre, Snuka.  
**January 1982/Stories include:** Flair, Hogan, Race, Humberdink.  
**February 1982/Stories include:** Valentine, Flair, Steamboat, Rhodes.  
**March 1982/Stories include:** Rich, Backlund, Idol, Spoiler.  
**April 1982/Stories include:** Rhodes, Andre, Von Erich, Piper.  
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**June 1982/Stories include:** Valentine, Von Erich, Slaughter, Morales.  
**July 1982/Stories include:** Hogan, Rhodes, Steamboat, Adonis.  
**August 1982/Stories include:** Andre, Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Backlund.  
**September 1982/Stories include:** Atlas, Piper, Lawler, Brody.

**October 1982/Stories include:** Rich, Andre, Piper, Dillon.  
**November 1982/Stories include:** Flair, Snuka, Von Erich, Slaughter.  
**December 1982/Stories include:** Mulligan, Rich, Lawler, Grand Wizard.  
**February 1983/Stories include:** Rhodes, Hogan, DiBiase, Race.  
**March 1983/Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Graham, Johnson, Funk.  
**April 1983/Stories include:** Snuka, Patera, Kabuki, Rich.  
**May 1983/Stories include:** Rich, Snuka, Sullivan, Steamboat.  
**June 1983/Stories include:** Studd, Garvin, Rogers, Orton.  
**July 1983/Stories include:** Hogan, Freebirds, Rhodes, Youngblood.  
**August 1983/Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Garvin, Sullivan, Lawler.  
**September 1983/Stories include:** Zbyszko, Piper, Andre, Hayes.  
**October 1983/Stories include:** Wrestling II, Backlund, Junkyard Dog, Rhodes.  
**November 1983/Stories include:** Hogan, Reed, Von Erich, Dillon.  
**December 1983/Stories include:** Von Erich, Samoans, Valiant, Road Warriors.  
**January 1984/Stories include:** Von Erich, Rich, Superstar, Piper.  
**February 1984/Stories include:** Abdullah, Sawyers, Valiant, Von Erich.  
**March 1984/Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Rich, Rhodes, Garvin.  
**April 1984/Stories include:** Flair, Steamboat, Superstar, Windham.  
**May 1984/Stories include:** Iron Sheik, Steamboat, Rotundo, Von Erich.  
**June 1984/Stories include:** Flair, Slaughter, Cornette, DiBiase.  
**July 1984/Stories include:** Valiant, Flair, Martel, Wrestling II.  
**August 1984/Stories include:** Junkyard Dog, Magnum T.A., Idol, Spoiler.  
**September 1984/Stories include:** Martel, Brody, Von Erich, Iron Sheik.  
**October 1984/Stories include:** Billy Jack, Road Warriors, Steamboat, Piper.  
**November 1984/Stories include:** Rhodes, Rich, Hernandez, Warriors.  
**December 1984/Stories include:** Hogan, Warriors, Sullivan, Magnum T.A.  
**January 1985/Stories include:** Magnum T.A., Rhodes, Atlas, Von Erich.  
**February 1985/Stories include:** Rich, Adams, Valiant, Flair.  
**March 1985/Stories include:** Backlund, Billy Jack, Koloffs, Von Erichs.  
**April 1985/Stories include:** Warriors, Albano & Hogan, Steamboat, Gordy.  
**May 1985/Stories include:** Slaughter, Garvin, Albano, Koloffs.  
**June 1985/Stories include:** Warriors, Slaughter, Von Erichs, Studd & Patera.  
**July 1985/Stories include:** Hogan, Von Erich, Nikita, Warriors.  
**August 1985/Stories include:** Wrestlingmania, Zbyszko vs. The Tonga Kid.  
**September 1985/Stories include:** Piper, Flair, Fantastics, Magnum T.A.



## AUGUST 1984

**July 1974/Stories include:** Garea, Zbyszko, Heenan, Strongbow.  
**August 1974/Stories include:** Sammartino, Sheik, Albano, Ladd.  
**September 1974/Stories include:** Sammartino, Graham, Brooks, Bruiser.  
**November 1974/Stories include:** Garvin, Mascaras, Sammartino, Graham.  
**June 1975/Stories include:** Sammartino, Abdullah, LeDuc, Brisco.  
**August 1975/Stories include:** Valentine, Garea, Rhodes, Sammartino.  
**September 1975/Stories include:** Mascaras, Funk, Valiants, Gagne.  
**February 1976/Stories include:** Andre, Strongbow, Lewin, Brazil.  
**March 1976/Stories include:** Ladd, Funk, Sheik, Robinson.  
**April 1976/Stories include:** Mascaras, Albano, Flair, Brisco.  
**June 1976/Stories include:** Sammartino, Bockwinkel, Flair, Mascaras.  
**August 1976/Stories include:** Funks, Mascaras, Sammartino, Putski.  
**September 1976/Stories include:** Andre, Funk, Hansen, Mascaras.  
**October 1976/Stories include:** Sammartino, Race, Johnson, Jones.

**November 1976/Stories include:** Mascaras, Wrestling II, Funk, Sammartino.  
**December 1976/Stories include:** Stasiak, Rhodes, Bockwinkel, Orton.  
**January 1977/Stories include:** Sammartino, Brisco, Funk, Gagne.  
**February 1977/Stories include:** Andre, Funk, Sammartino, Gagne.  
**May 1977/Stories include:** Sammartino, Putski, Sheik, Race.  
**August 1977/Stories include:** Backlund, Graham, Mascaras, Lawler.  
**September 1977/Stories include:** Sammartino, Andre, Mascaras, Brisco.  
**October 1977/Stories include:** Andre, Rhodes, Backlund, Mulligan.  
**November 1977/Stories include:** Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras, Gagne.  
**December 1977/Stories include:** Andre, Mascaras, Johnson, Maliva.  
**March 1978/Stories include:** Rhodes, Valentine, Backlund, Bockwinkel.  
**April 1978/Stories include:** Backlund, Graham, Steamboat, Bruiser.  
**August 1978/Stories include:** Backlund, Rhodes, Andre, Hansen.  
**October 1978/Stories include:** Sammartino, Andre, Rhodes, McDaniel.  
**November 1978/Stories include:** Rhodes, Backlund, Flair, Steamboat.  
**December 1978/Stories include:** Sammartino, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Bravo.  
**January 1979/Stories include:** Sammartino, Mulligan, Rhodes, Backlund.  
**February 1979/Stories include:** Race, Sammartino, Steamboat, Ladd.  
**April 1979/Stories include:** Andre, Flair, Backlund, Jones.  
**May 1979/Stories include:** Steamboat, Rhodes, Backlund, Heenan.  
**June 1979/Stories include:** Rhodes, Superstar, Bockwinkel, Backlund.  
**July 1979/Stories include:** Rhodes, Ladd, Valiant, Brower.  
**August 1979/Stories include:** Flair, Garvin, Race, Sammartino.  
**September 1979/Stories include:** Steamboat, Mascaras, Strongbow, Garvin.

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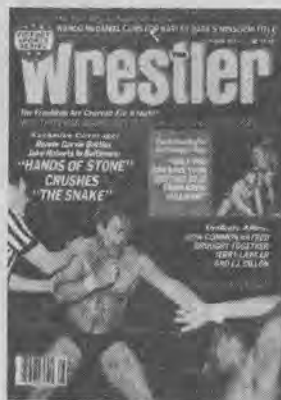


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**October 1980**/Stories include: Patera, Rhodes, Wrestling II, Morales.  
**November 1980**/Stories include: Rich, Hogan, Snuka, Super Destroyers.  
**January 1981**/Stories include: Valentine, Rhodes, Patera, Von Erich.  
**February 1981**/Stories include: Zbyszko, Patera, Iron Sheik, Wrestling II.  
**March 1981**/Stories include: Rich, Samoans, Blassie, Wrestling II.  
**May 1981**/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, DiBiase, Moondogs.  
**June 1981**/Stories include: Sammartino, Piper, Rich, Martel.  
**July 1981**/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Flair, Atlas.  
**August 1981**/Stories include: DiBiase, Slaughter, Martel, Idol.  
**October 1981**/Stories include: Funks, Rhodes, Race, Sullivan.  
**December 1981**/Stories include: Rhodes, Steele, Race, Hogan.  
**January 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Steamboat, Sullivan, Sammartino.  
**March 1982**/Stories include: Slaughter, Albano, Flair, Race.  
**April 1982**/Stories include: Brisco, Armstrongs, Valentine, Santana.  
**May 1982**/Stories include: Backlund, Von Erich, Graham, Rich.  
**June 1982**/Stories include: Steamboat, Reed, Albano, Piper.  
**July 1982**/Stories include: Rich, Sawyer, Flair, Steamboat.  
**August 1982**/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Steamboat, Mulligans, Piper.  
**September 1982**/Stories include: Rhodes, Hogan, Armstrong, Blair.  
**October 1982**/Stories include: Snuka, Rhodes, Santana, Piper.  
**November 1982**/Stories include: Flair, Snuka, Piper, Blair.  
**December 1982**/Stories include: Snuka, Rich, Kamala, Junkyard Dog.

**January 1983**/Stories include: Putski, Muraco, Windham, Bockwinkel.  
**February 1983**/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Backlund, Rich, Kamala.  
**March 1983**/Stories include: Piper, Reed, Valiant, Roberts.  
**April 1983**/Stories include: Rhodes, Tiger Mask, Sammartino, Bundy.  
**May 1983**/Stories include: Samoans, Von Erich, Rhodes, Orndorff.  
**June 1983**/Stories include: Windham, Martel, Brody, Andre.  
**July 1983**/Stories include: Flair, Adonis, Sullivan, Zbyszko.  
**August 1983**/Stories include: Valentine, Blanchard, Windham, Street.  
**September 1983**/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Brisco.  
**October 1983**/Stories include: Race, Sawyer, Brisco, Bass.  
**November 1983**/Stories include: Rhodes, Santana, Von Erichs, Kabuki.  
**December 1983**/Stories include: Mascaras, Superstar, Von Erich, Zbyszko.  
**January 1984**/Stories include: Valentine, Hogan, Von Erich, Road Warriors.  
**March 1984**/Stories include: Santana, Hogan, Von Erich, Sawyers.  
**April 1984**/Stories include: Hogan, Ellering, Von Erich, Rhodes.  
**May 1984**/Stories include: Windham, Brody, Road Warriors, Junkyard Dog.  
**June 1984**/Stories include: Von Erich, Billy Jack, Flair, Armstrong.  
**July 1984**/Stories include: Rich, Billy Jack, Valiant, Von Erich.  
**August 1984**/Stories include: Garvin, Sullivan, Freebirds, Street.  
**September 1984**/Stories include: Von Erich, Piper, Steamboat, Billy Jack.  
**October 1984**/Stories include: Flair, Rhodes, Magnum T.A., Bundy.  
**November 1984**/Stories include: Billy Jack, Von Erich, Piper, Brody.  
**December 1984**/Stories include: Martel, Santana, Von Erich, Steamboat.  
**January 1985**/Stories include: Von Erich, Warriors, Albano, Koloffs.  
**February 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Santana, Billy Jack, Nikita Koloff.  
**March 1985**/Stories include: Slaughter, Warriors, Martel, Rude.  
**April 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Von Erich-Adams, Flair, Tonga & Snuka.  
**May 1985**/Stories include: Warriors, Backlund, Santana, Rich.  
**June 1985**/Stories include: Rhodes, Windham, Rich, Hogan.  
**July 1985**/Stories include: Junkyard Dog, Reed, Martel, Sunshine.  
**August 1985**/BONUS 4-PG. COLOR SECTION! Plus: Warriors, Magnum T.A., Sheik & Volkoff, McGraw.  
**September 1985**/Stories include: Hogan, Von Erich, Savage, R&R Express.



## OCTOBER 1982

**May 1979**/Stories include: Steamboat, Brody, Valiants, Race.  
**July 1979**/Stories include: Wrestling II, Backlund, Sammartino, Andre.  
**August 1979**/Stories include: Bockwinkel, Patera, Stevens, Superstar.  
**September 1979**/Stories include: Steamboat, Graham, Piper, Mascaras.  
**October 1979**/Stories include: Flair, Valentine, Santana, Muraco.  
**December 1979**/Stories include: Andre, Graham, Rhodes, Mascaras.  
**January 1980**/Stories include: Race, Backlund, Snuka, Brisco.  
**February 1980**/Stories include: Andre, Flair, DiBiase, Superstar.  
**March 1980**/Stories include: Sammartino, Murdoch, Mulligan, Andre.  
**April 1980**/Stories include: Rhodes, DiBiase, Youngblood, Wrestling II.  
**May 1980**/Stories include: Andre, Mascaras, Bockwinkel, Patera.  
**June 1980**/Stories include: Backlund, Abdullah, Brisco, Flair.  
**August 1980**/Stories include: Valentine, Zbyszko, Von Erich, Albano.

**February 1975**/Stories include: Andre, Strongbow, Brisco, Sheik.  
**June 1975**/Stories include: Andre, Muraco, Funk, Lawler.  
**July 1975**/Stories include: Valentine, Sammartino, Race, Rhodes.  
**August 1975**/Stories include: Sammartino, Patterson, Stasiak, Rivera.  
**December 1975**/Stories include: Mascaras, Rhodes, McDaniel, Blackjacks.  
**January 1976**/Stories include: Sammartino, Putski, Wrestling II, Rhodes.  
**February 1976**/Stories include: Andre, Sammartino, Rhodes, Valentine.  
**July 1976**/Stories include: Andre, Wrestling II, Inoki, Von Erich.  
**November 1976**/Stories include: Sammartino, Andre, Valentine, Mosca.  
**December 1976**/Stories include: Von Erich, Mulligan, Brody, Funk.  
**January 1977**/Stories include: Brody, Andre, Wrestling II, Mascaras.  
**February 1977**/Stories include: Sammartino, Jones, Funk, Von Raschke.  
**April 1977**/Stories include: Sammartino, Funk, Flair, Bockwinkel.  
**May 1977**/Stories include: Mascaras, Valiants, Andersons, Sammartino.  
**June 1977**/Stories include: Patera, Putski, Hernandez, McDaniel.  
**July 1977**/Stories include: Backlund, Rhodes, Rocca, Mascaras.  
**October 1977**/Stories include: Rhodes, Sammartino, Flair, Snuka.  
**November 1977**/Stories include: Sammartino, Slater, Mascaras, Snuka.  
**September 1978**/Stories include: Rhodes, Grahams, Andre, Mascaras.  
**October 1978**/Stories include: Sammartino, Backlund, McDaniel, Race.  
**November 1978**/Stories include: Flair, Andre, Ladd, Graham.  
**December 1978**/Stories include: Brisco, Mulligan, Andre, Blanchard.  
**February 1979**/Stories include: Ladd, Flair, Idol, Heenan.

## THE WRESTLER

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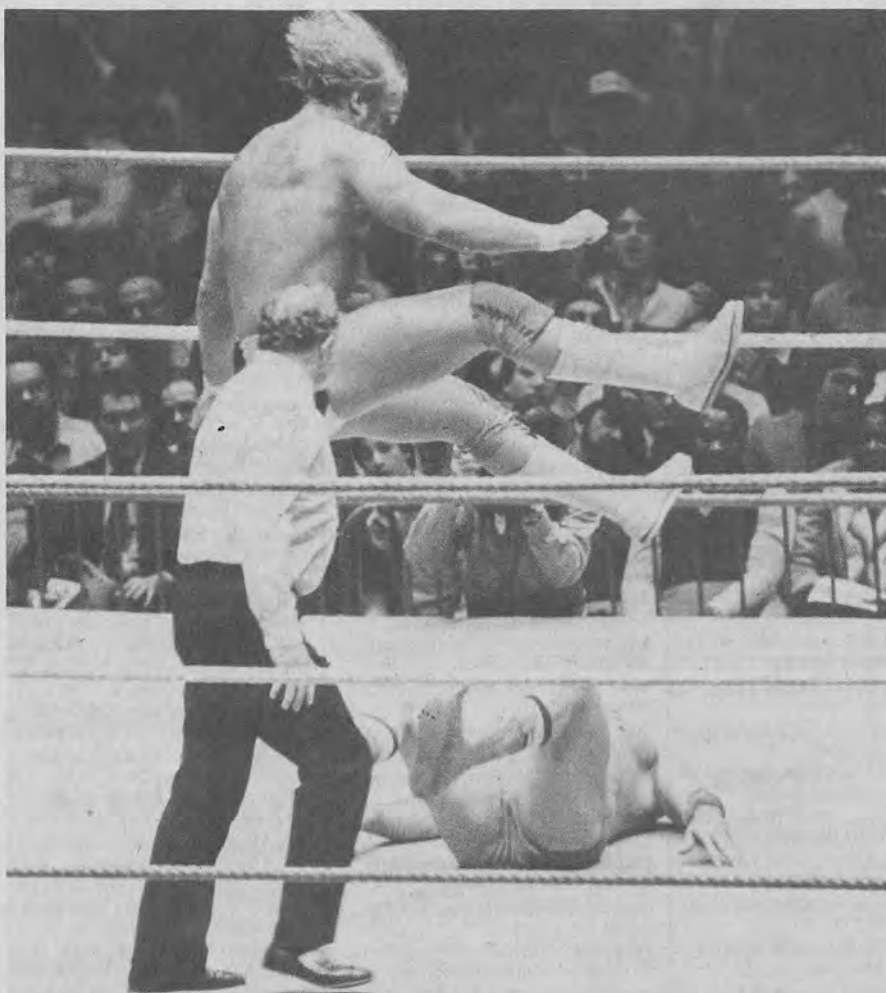
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THE

# INSIDER

By Eddie Ellner



Here's a hint for Part 1. WWF champion Hulk Hogan executes his favorite maneuver against former champion The Iron Sheik.

**T**ODAY, LADIES, gentlemen, and you others who got your pages mixed up and turned to this column, we are going to play a game. The game is limited to those devoted to the sport of professional wrestling, so, in order to weed out the serious wrestling aficionados from the rest of you bums, you must answer this test question correctly before continuing on.

1. The WWF most closely resembles: A) the liver of a Malaysian female jungle lemur; B) the Harlem Globetrotters' cheerleaders; C) a top flight wrestling promotion; D) *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World Part II*; E) The Beverly Hillbillies meet Monty Python; F) the bar scene in the original *Star Wars*; G) A and E; H) D and K; I) none of the above; J) K and D; K) all of the above except C.

The correct response is, of course, A) the liver of a Malaysian female jungle lemur. The liver, a large reddish-brown organ found in mammals, is responsible for the secretion of bile from the body. The WWF, a large black and gray organ regulating the actions of several dozen wrestlers, is responsible for producing bile, which they then pawn off as professional wrestling. Although K was also in consideration, the wish of this columnist is not to denigrate the precise artistry of the Globetrotters' cheerleaders.

If your answer was "A," then please continue on to the next part of the exam. If your answer was "C," then you immediately win the grand prize of a week for two in a dank closet with four shriners suffering from legionnaires' disease.

## PART I: Match the wrestler to the move he is most likely to make

- |                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| (1) Hulk Hogan | (A) Legdrop |
| (2) Hulk Hogan | (B) Legdrop |
| (3) Hulk Hogan | (C) Legdrop |
| (4) Hulk Hogan | (D) Legdrop |
| (5) Hulk Hogan | (E) Legdrop |
| (6) Hulk Hogan | (F) Legdrop |

## PART II: True or False

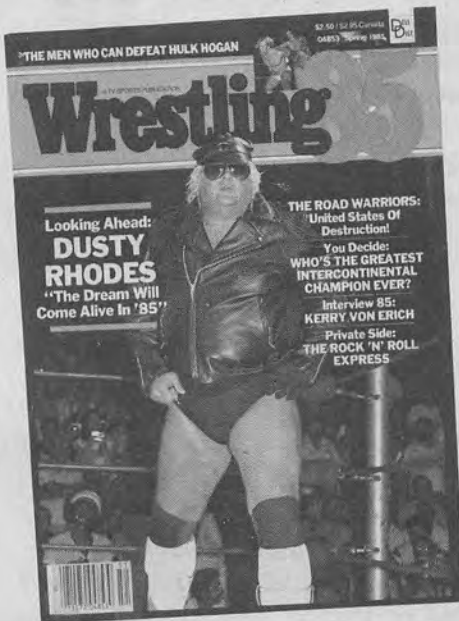
- George Steele brushes his teeth with a razor.
- The Junkyard Dog's real name is Junkyard Dog.
- Sky Low Low moonlights as a cast-iron jockey on the lawn of

(Continued on page 20)



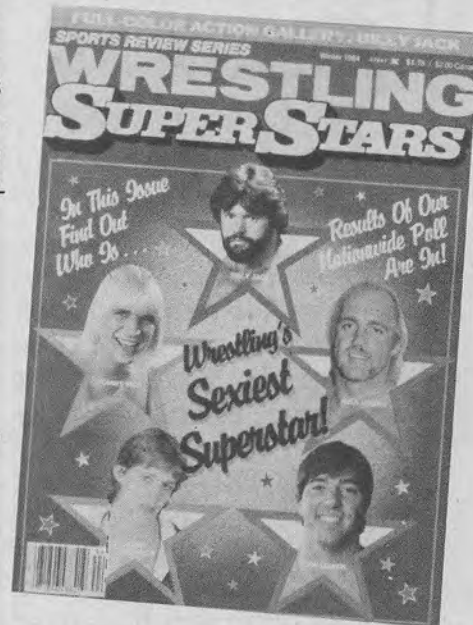
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## INSIDER

(Continued from page 18)



DAVID SAMMARTINO

Wendi Richter.

4. David Sammartino is recording a remixed version of the song "All Revved Up With No Place To Go."
5. Uncle Elmer is Hillbilly Jim's uncle.
6. Cousin Junior and Vince McMahon Jr. are brothers.

### PART III: FILL IN THE BLANKS

1. Although the WWF will not tell you that Randy Savage and Lanny Poffo are brothers, their father's name is (blank). (Hint: It's not Angelo Savage.)
2. The doctor giving George Steele shock treatments got his medical degree from a correspondence school in (blank). (Hint: City in Central America.)
3. Lord Al Hayes speaks (blank) times better than Missing Link. (Number from zero to two.)
4. The WWF is trying desperately to replace the gate appeal of Sgt. Slaughter with the hapless likes of Corporal (blank). (Hint: It's not Corporal Klinger.)

### PART IV: YOU BE THE JUDGE

*In this section you are given the details of a fictional crime story that you are asked to pass judgment on. Evaluate the evidence carefully before rendering a verdict.*

It was a steaming, muggy day and Mr. Bonehead and his friend I.M. Stupid decided to cool off with a shake at the local Burger

Prince. But when they tried to open the doors they discovered they were locked. "But there are people in there," remarked Mr. Bonehead. "Yes, there are," I.M. Stupid concurred. Not to be deterred, Mr. Bonehead took a large boulder sitting innocently by the roadside and gently tossed it through the picturesque plate-glass window, shattering it into millions of jagged shards.

Laughing gaily, the two pranced off to their hotel room cutting through the Inn's flower beds and killing off 2,000 infant petunias. Several minutes later, the local police visited their hotel rooms to inform the two professional bouncers that they were under arrest for the destruction of property and disturbing the peace.

Bonehead, who weighs 285 pounds, looked at his friend I.M. Stupid, who scales in at 315 pounds, who nodded. The two then picked up one of the arresting officers, Miss Judy Petite, who stands 5'4" and weighs 118 pounds and took turns banging her head against the wall. It took nine policeman, five fireman, and two police dogs to subdue the two.

At the trial, the attorneys for Bonehead and Stupid pleaded not guilty, claiming that their clients are constantly being discriminated against because of their size. "Society blames my clients just because they wear size 52 suits," one attorney claimed. Are they guilty, or simply the victims of unjust police harrassment?

**YOU DECIDE.**

### PART V: ESSAY

In five words or less, describe the positive effects that the WWF has had on professional wrestling.

*[Editor's Note: Eddie Ellner is receiving treatments from George Steele's doctor and is recovering nicely.]* □



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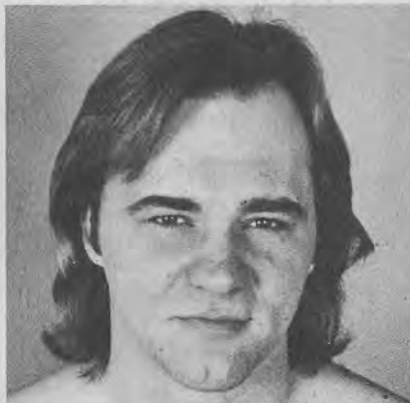
Send your reports to: Correspondent Editor, Box 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571

## LAS VEGAS, NV

By Jay Elliott Jr.



**SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
vs.  
**LARRY ZBYSZKO**



Both men could barely be restrained during the ring introductions. Slaughter started out strongly, applying the cobra clutch on Zbyszko at the two-minute mark. Zbyszko grabbed the rope to break the hold and then delivered a vicious kick to Slaughter's groin. They exchanged punches for almost a minute when Slaughter whipped Zbyszko over the top rope, resulting in his disqualification, much to the crowd's dismay.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Sgt. Slaughter won a 20-man, \$100,000 battle royal ... Michael Hayes & Terry Gordy defeated Greg Gagne & Curt Hennig ... Nick Bockwinkel defeated Baron Von Raschke ... Bob Backlund whipped Billy Robinson ... Brad Rheingans and Ray Stevens wrestled to a draw.

## COLONIE, NY

By Lee Lazarow



**KERRY VON ERICH**  
vs.  
**ONE MAN GANG**



Von Erich opened the match with a series of dropkicks that sent the 468-pound One Man Gang hurtling from the ring. OMG returned only to have Kerry clamp the iron claw on his big head. OMG grabbed the referee and threw him into Kerry, then bounced off the rope for his big splash. Kerry moved out of the way and Gang went down hard on the mat. Kerry fired a discus punch at Gang that sent him running, once and for all, to the dressing room.

**OTHER BOUTS:** The Great Kabuki defeated Chris Adams ... Iceman Parsons defeated Killer Tim Brooks ... Misty Blue beat Kathy Lerux ... El Maskerado beat Chris Duffy.

## SAGINAW, MI

By Scott Harrison



**DICK SLATER**  
vs.  
**KEVIN SULLIVAN**

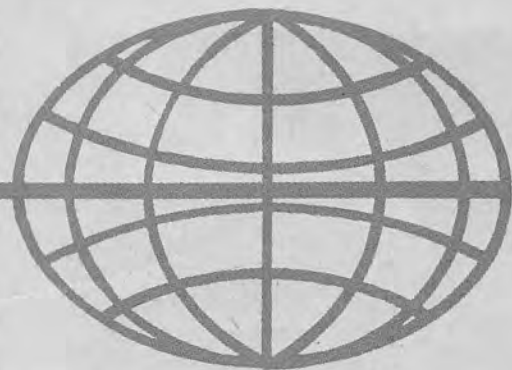


This match between "Mr. Excitement" and "The Prince of Darkness" took on ominous tones. Sullivan followed his satanic invocation by throwing Slater clear out of the ring and slamming his head into the ringside table. Sullivan hit Slater with a chair and then attempted to scrape his face with a foreign object. Slater wrestled the object from Sullivan's grasp and chased him from the ring. Sullivan was counted out and Slater was awarded the victory.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Jimmy Valiant defeated Konga the Barbarian ... The Sawyers drew with The Midnight Express ... Black Bart pinned The Italian Stallion ... T-Bolt Patterson defeated Tommy Lane ... Pistol Pez Whatley beat Mike Davis ... Bob Roop defeated Rocky King.



# WRESTLING CAPITALS

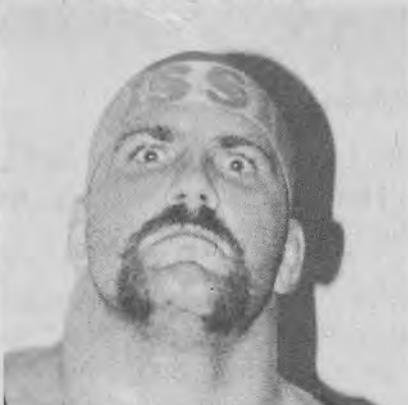


## ATLANTA, GA

By Steve Hendrix



**RIC FLAIR  
vs.  
NIKITA KOLOFF**



The big Omni crowd cheered loudly for Flair as he made his way to the ring. Nikita was met by a chorus of "U.S.A! U.S.A.!" The pace of the match was brutal. Flair was bloodied early on by the younger and stronger Russian. Flair used his experience to wrap Koloff in the figure-four, but the powerful Soviet flexed out of it. Both men tumbled from the ring and kept fighting on the floor, where referee Tommy Young counted them out.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Dusty Rhodes & Magnum T.A. defeated Ole & Arn Anderson by disqualification ... Black Bart defeated Jimmy Valiant ... Dennis Condrey & Bobby Eaton beat Buzz Sawyer & Manny Fernandez ... Tully Blanchard defeated The Italian Stallion ... Terry Taylor defeated Mike Davis.

## BALTIMORE, MD

By Ricky Heiger



**DUSTY RHODES  
vs.  
TULLY BLANCHARD**



The match was slow-paced until both men tumbled from the ring. From that point on, Dusty had to contend with a vicious cut on his head. Dusty retaliated with elbowsmashes and put Blanchard in the figure-four leglock. Baby Doll pulled Dusty's hair until he released the hold, and The American Dream chased the valet around the ring. Blanchard chased after Rhodes and both men were counted out.

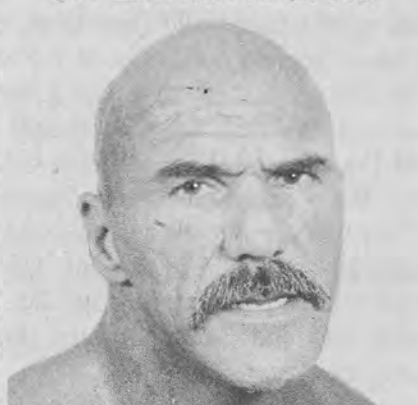
**OTHER BOUTS:** Magnum T.A. defeated Ric Flair by disqualification ... Rick Martel defeated Larry Zbyszko ... Jimmy Valiant defeated Paul Jones ... Bob Backlund defeated Mike Sharpe ... Tom Zenk defeated The Blue Mask.

## YORK, PA

By Todd Miller



**JIMMY VALIANT  
vs.  
SUPERSTAR GRAHAM**



Valiant was out for revenge and wasted no time in pelting Graham with elbowsmashes and dropkicks. Graham retaliated with several karate kicks and chops and seemed to have Valiant backing up. Valiant, however, called on his reserves of strength and boogie-woogied his way to victory.

**OTHER BOUTS:** Thunderbolt Patterson defeated Ole Anderson by disqualification ... Black Bart beat Brett Sawyer ... Dick Slater defeated The Eliminator ... The Italian Stallion beat Joel Deaton.



# Matt Brock's **PLAIN SPEAKING**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA:** So now the rush begins. Now that Greg Valentine and Brutus Beefcake have the WWF tag team belts, let's see which tag teams will be scrambling for title shots. I'm sure that Capt. Lou will negotiate plenty of rematches for Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo. But if they fail, who's next in the wings? Well, Tito Santana and Junkyard Dog have been wrestling tag team, but Tito's got the Intercontinental belt to defend, so a move for the tag belts would be unwise right now. There's Lanny Poffo and George Wells, but Wells is such a weak link in that team they'd simply be wasting their time. Jimmy Snuka and Rick Steamboat were a potentially great team, but Snuka seems to have dropped out of the WWF scene completely. You'd have to think that The Killer B's, Brian Blair and Jim Brunzell, are the number one contenders, and I'm sure the WWF officials will see it that way, too. But I'm hoping that someone in the WWF offices will come to their senses and give The British Bulldogs, Dynamite Kid and Davey Boy Smith, some title shot action. If they did, I'd bet we'd be seeing Kid and Smith in some title *defense* action pretty quickly.

**DALLAS, TX:** Bruiser Brody is in the World Class area now, and that's good. That means that a lot of wrestling fans, not only in Texas but fans across the country lucky enough to get World Class action via cable television, will have the opportunity to see Brody in action. It seems that Brody has spent a lot of the last two years in Japan, and he has, and you can't fault him for that, but look at what we've been missing out on here in the States. My prediction? Brody will snap up the World Class American or Texas titles, then use that as a springboard to NWA World champion Ric Flair. I was on hand at a couple of the Brody-Flair matches in St. Louis a few years back, and believe me, those were some classic brawls. Everyone says how Magnum T.A.



**BRUISER BRODY**

and Nikita Koloff and Kerry Von Erich are next in line to dethrone Flair. But don't overlook the wildman from Albuquerque, New Mexico!

**TOKYO, JAPAN:** No, my expense account didn't allow me to travel to the Pearl of the Orient this month, but I did get a chance to chat awhile with my good friend Koichi Yoshizawa, noted Japanese reporter. It's interesting to note that one of America's most popular wrestlers is fast becoming one of Japan's most hated wrestlers. You might find this hard to believe, but the wrestler is Andre the Giant! Seems that Andre's been hanging around with hated Japanese manager Wakamatsu, who also manages the mighty masked Strong Machines (who wear the most unusual masks in wrestling: There are no holes for eyes, nose, or mouth—and nobody yet has figured out how the Machines can see out of those masks!). Wakamatsu's been managing Andre during his recent tours of Japan, and the manager has helped Andre probe the depths of his fiery soul in an effort to make him more aggressive than ever in the ring. And Andre now wears a Strong Machine-



## Harder than nails, veteran wrestling reporter Matt Brock has logged more miles covering wrestling than any other journalist. Every month Matt will travel to the sport's hotbeds, reporting everything he sees without fear or favor

style mask into the ring and is being called "The Giant Machine" by Wakamatsu. The mask isn't intended to conceal Andre's identity, but to underscore the strength of his relationship with Wakamatsu. Will Andre's Japanese aggressiveness eventually manifest itself in the U.S.? Only time will tell.

**MINNEAPOLIS, MN:** Over the grapevine, the word's come down that Mil Mascaras has signed open contracts for some AWA cards. My information says that Mascaras will be wrestling on anywhere from three to nine upcoming cards, but the big buzzing on the grapevine has to do with Mascaras' intentions. Is the masked legend coming to the AWA as a change of pace? Is he simply looking for a few paydays? Or is Mascaras scouting after Rick Martel? Personally, I think a Mascaras-Martel match would be one of the greatest matches of this or any other year. Their styles compliment each other per-



**MIL MASCARAS**

fectly: They're both scientific masters with superb aerial skills. To imagine the strategic moves that would be made in such a match! A Mascaras-Martel title match would be—well, I don't even think I can come up with the words to describe how fine a contest it would be. Suffice to say I am *imploring* the AWA front office to get on the stick!

**CHARLOTTE, NC:** I've been paying close attention, very close attention, to the six-man tag team matches featuring Ivan and Nikita Koloff and Krusher Khrushchev. Is it my imagination, or are the Koloffs carrying more than their fair share of the tag team load? And when I say that, I'm not sure if it's due to the attitude of Koloff and Koloff wanting to carry more, or of Khrushchev wanting to carry less.



**KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV**

All I can be sure of is that I'm beginning to notice that there's a slight rift developing within this team, and it's no wonder: If I were Khrushchev, I'd be upset at Ivan, too. After all, Ivan's concentrating all his time and effort (or a major part of it, to be sure) on Nikita and his title shots with NWA World champion Ric Flair. And you don't see Khrushchev getting any of the same kind of attention, do you? Like I said, it may be my imagination, but I hear the first rumblings of a massive explosion that could rip this team to shreds. □

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Do you have a favorite wrestler who has left your area? Are you wondering where he is today? Then this special column is just for you. Each month we will update the whereabouts of four current or former wrestlers



## THE SHEIK

For many wrestling fans there always was, and always will be, only one Sheik. Forget about The Iron Sheik, Sheik Abdullah, or Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie—the fire-throwing madman known only as The Sheik remains one of the most notorious foreigners on the wrestling scene. The Sheik, who is barred from wrestling in several states, is wrestling regularly on cards in Michigan and Canada, and he recently attended the NWA convention in Las Vegas, putting in his bid for a title shot at NWA World champion Ric Flair.



## MIL MASCARAS

The legendary Mil Mascaras, the man of a thousand masks and a thousand holds, spent the last year competing in Mexico and made several films there as well. It's been a long time since American audiences have had the privilege of seeing Mascaras in action, but that privilege will once again return: Mascaras has signed several open contracts to wrestle on AWA cards, and promoters around the country are already speculating on the possibility of a Mascaras-Rick Martel AWA World title showdown.



## DR. BILL MILLER

Dr. Bill Miller, who, wrestling as Mr. M under a mask, once captured the AWA World title from Verne Gagne, and without the mask wrestled in a lengthy and legendary feud in the '60s with then-WWF champion Bruno Sammartino, is now an inspector for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Miller, a veterinarian by trade, had two brothers who also wrestled. Ed Miller is in the real estate business in San Jose, California, and Dan Miller is now an official with the Florida wrestling office.



## CHRIS MARKOFF

At one time, Chris Markoff was one of the most hated wrestlers in the entire sport, competing in the AWA and feuding with such men as Bruiser, Crusher, and Verne Gagne. Now Markoff is taking his ring expertise and lending his advice to a young Russian competitor by the name of Boris Zurkhov. Competing in the AWA, Zurkhov has targeted Americas champion Sgt. Slaughter as his number one foe, and Markoff has gone on record as saying that he will not rest until the Americas belt is around his man's waist.



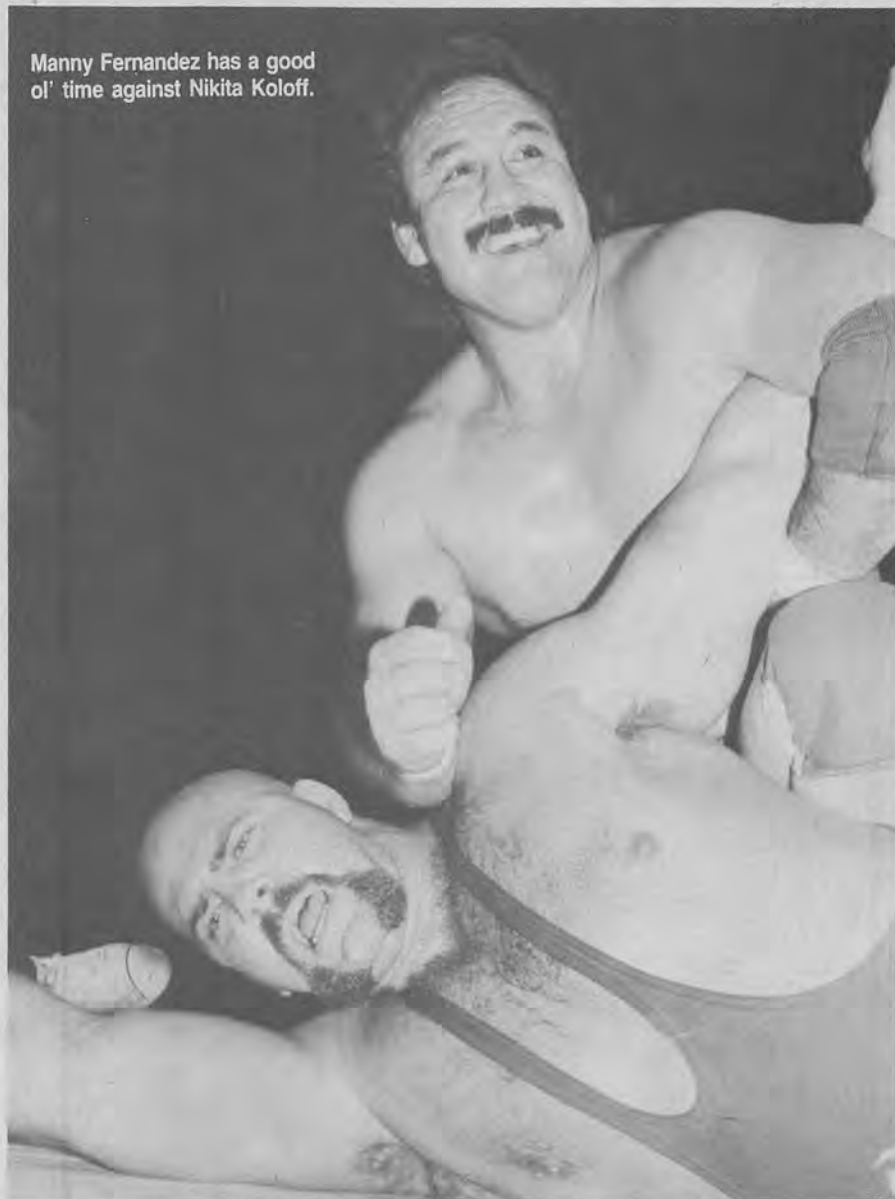
# inside wrestling

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## capsule profile

### MANNY FERNANDEZ

Manny Fernandez has a good ol' time against Nikita Koloff.

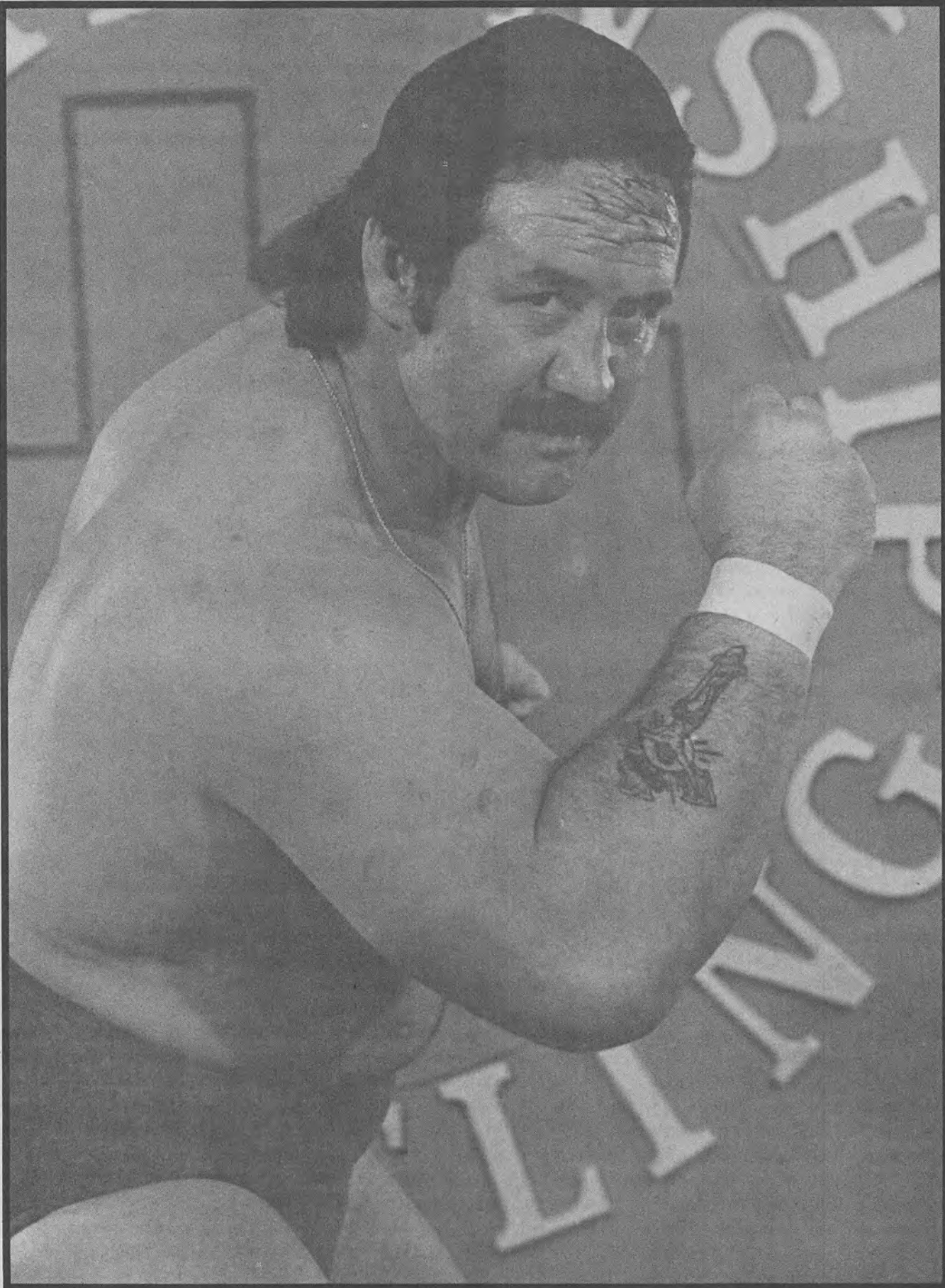


**M**ANNY FERNANDEZ IS known throughout the wrestling world as "The Ragin' Bull" (*"That has nothing to do with the movie; it's because I wrestle like a bull in a china shop, and my opponent crumbles like a piece of fine porcelain!"*) ... Loves to brawl, but also possesses fine scientific skills and a superb aerial attack (*"People have said I'm fearless in that ring; I guess they're right!"*) ... Though known mainly for his achievements in the World Championship area, he has wrestled throughout the entire world (*"Two of my favorite states are Florida and Texas"*) ... Held the Florida heavyweight title in the late '70s, and feuded heavily with Dick Slater (*"We had some cage match wars that had everything but napalm!"*) ... His success in Florida brought him several title shots with then-NWA World champion Harley Race (*"A tough man and a heck of a wrestler; I really respect the man"*) ... Wrestled in the Southwest area in Texas, where he feuded with Gino Hernandez and Killer Brooks (*"It was a loser-leave-town cage match with Brooks that brought me from Texas to the World Championship area; I haven't forgotten, though, because one of these days I'll get even with Brooks"*) ... One of his closest friends in the sport is Dusty Rhodes (*"Nobody does it better than*

*The American Dream, daddy!"*) ... The team of Fernandez and Rhodes captured the NWA World tag team belts from Ivan Koloff and Don Kernodle (*"I still don't like Koloff, but it's good to see that Kernodle has taken the time off to get his head together"*) ... Defended the title successfully until losing the belts to Ivan and Nikita Koloff (*"They've got to be the most ruthless team in the sport"*) ... Manny then teamed up with Thunderbolt Patterson to capture the National tag team belts (*"Patterson is a great part-*

*ner and a great wrestler"*) ... When Ole and Arn Anderson won the belts from Manny and T-Bolt, it sparked a vicious feud between "The Ragin' Bull" and the Andersons (*"Ole and Arn haven't even begun to taste the pain I'm gonna dish out to them!"*) ... A Vietnam veteran, Fernandez is proud of his service background (*"This is a great country, and I was proud to serve America on the battlefields of Nam, just as I'm proud now to serve my fans on the battlefield of the ring."*) □

## CAPSULE PROFILE PINUP



**MANNY FERNANDEZ**



# Sgt. Slaughter vs. Ric Flair:



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***Moscow gloated as two of America's premier talents and acknowledged nationalists waged war against each other. Can Ric Flair and Sgt. Slaughter afford to allow 10 pounds of gold to come between them and their country?***

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## WHY THE KREMLIN LOVED THIS MATCH!

*Photos by Chaz Fenn*

**W**HILE HIS PUBLIC voice is strong and vibrant, argumentative and ringed with authority, Ivan Koloff's private voice, used sparingly in the sanctum of his beautifully appointed home, is calm and foreign to his menacing visage, its edge softened by the familiar surroundings.

Today, Koloff has good reason to be tame. In the morning mail arrived a telegram from Moscow, from a division sinister in its anonymity, titled "The Ministry For Overseas Protocol," commending Koloff and his nephew Nikita on their roles in a saga that has matched the strangest of bedfellows, those dual and overlapping worlds of foreign policy and professional wrestling.

Although the telegram contained but 15 words, its carefully arranged syntax boomed its message: *Comrades Koloff & Koloff—*

*Stop—Your part in the Ric Flair-Sgt. Slaughter affair is acknowledged—Stop—Blat will be forthcoming—End.*

The correspondence was signed by Major Alexi Dorbonov, who research showed to be nothing but an errand boy lost in the bureaucratic wasteland of the Politburo, but Koloff was quick to explain the real significance of the signature.

"Dorbonov, da, is true, is but a hireling back home," confessed Koloff. "But his signature only comes with approval from the heads. Soviet bureaucracy is very complicated, very symbolic. One word can be placed in a sentence to mean many different things."

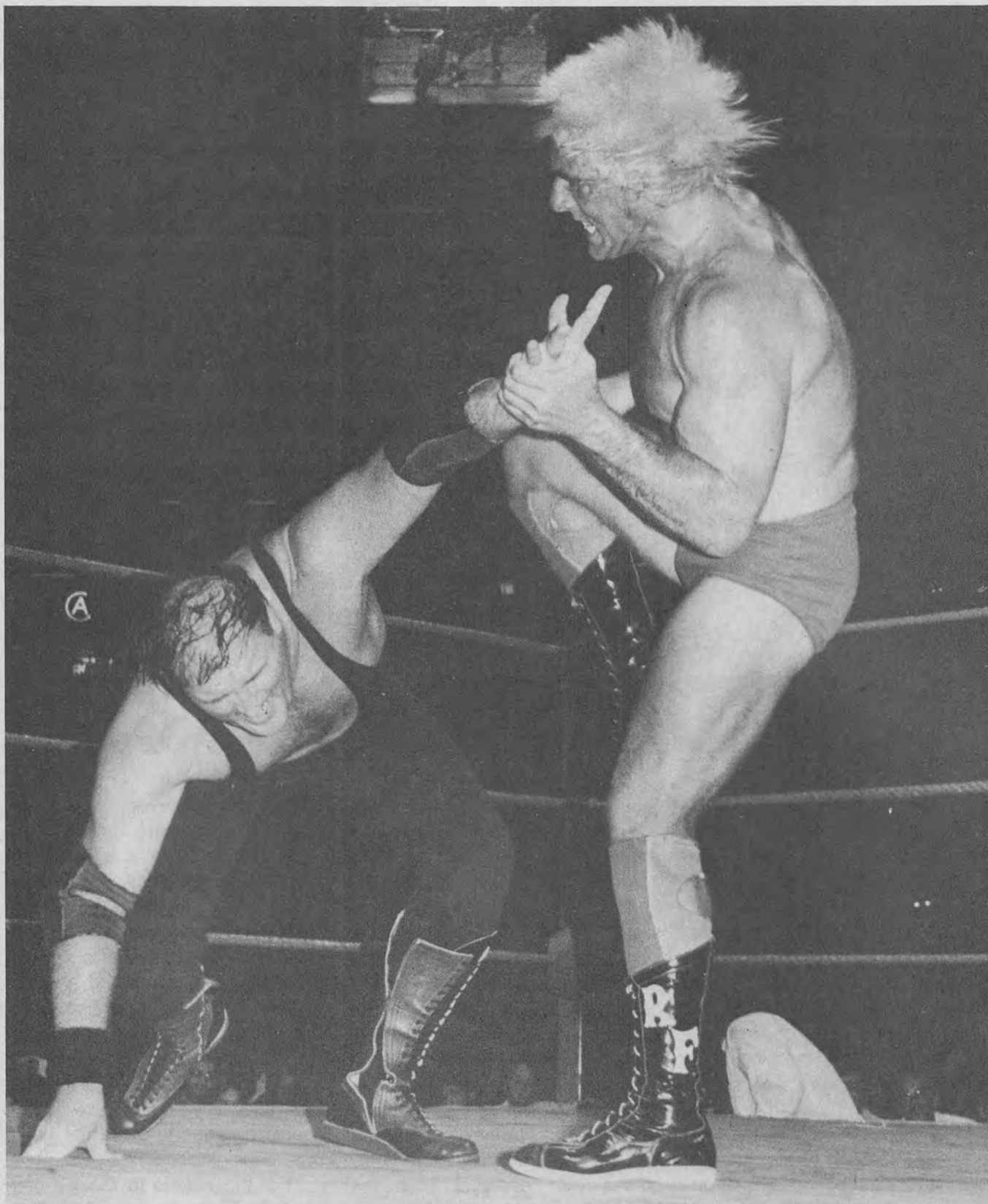
The telegram, according to Koloff, exploded with approval.

"The key to the message is in the word 'blat.' Blat is rarely used in correspondence. Moscow very

happy with Nikita and I. We are happy that they are happy."

Dr. Steven Balin, a specialist in Russian psychology, describes "blat" as "a reward system unique to the Soviet Union. The Russians have designed a system that appears to reward people without showing favoritism. Although the whole concept of reward as motivation for a job well done is essentially a capitalistic one, the Soviets attribute philosophic qualities to avoid the obvious ideological conflict.

"For the Koloffs to receive blat in such a way is incredible. The importance of the act cannot be ignored. Obviously, the Soviets perceive a working combination of Slaughter and Flair to pose an enormous problem. For Overseas Protocol to handle the affair is very significant. And for Dorbonov to sign the telegram is very telling.



Obviously, the Russians have surmised correctly that professional wrestling is fundamental to the American consciousness."

What the Kremlin is grinning over, and what Nikita and Ivan Koloff will soon be reaping the benefits of, is the irreconcilable

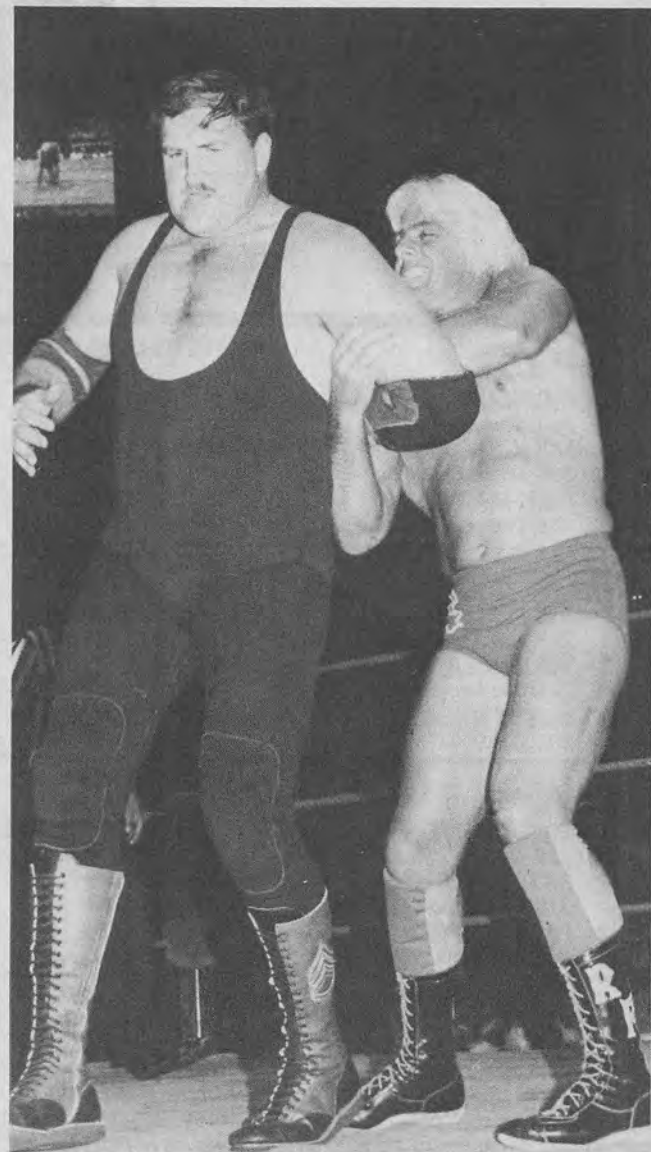
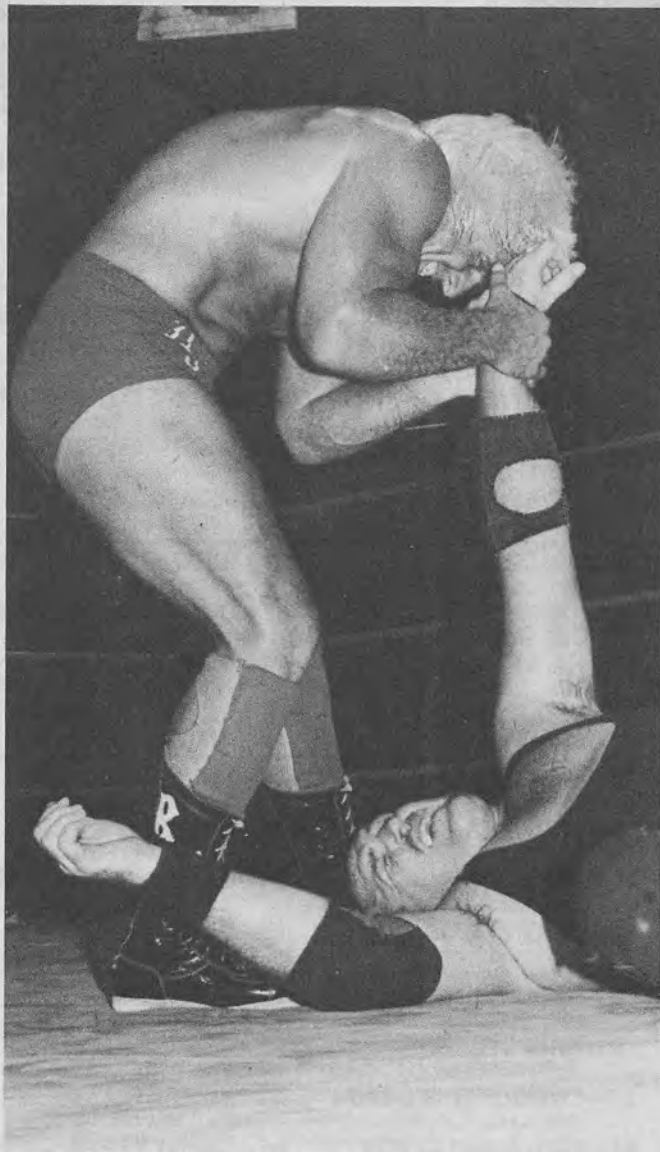
feud that has developed between two of America's most prolific patriots, Sgt. Slaughter and Ric Flair.

Slaughter's legend is already carved in children's history books. In the name of liberty and freedom, the Marine from Parris Is-

land, South Carolina, has spilled blood from the Redwood forests to the Gulf Stream waters. His reputation as a symbol of American icons like apple pie, baseball, and Diet Coke is international in its scope.

NWA champion Ric Flair has





What would be best for this country would be to see a tag team combination of Ric Flair and Sgt. Slaughter. What would be best for the Soviet Union would be to see them at each other's throats. Score this round of the cold war for the U.S.S.R. Opposite page: Flair lifts his knee into Slaughter's twisted left wrist. Above left: The champion continues to gear his attack toward his challenger's left wrist. Above right: As Flair holds Slaughter's already-pained left arm in a hammerlock, The Sarge plans his escape strategy. Right: The moment Slaughter gains the upper hand, he, quite naturally, goes after Flair's left arm.

come by the label of nationalist by simply defending his crown against the awesome spectre of Nikita Koloff. Flair is the first to deny seeking the label of patriot, but, so labeled, he has accepted the responsibility with a champion's grace and style.

Several months ago, the rumor given the widest run in professional wrestling circles was that Flair and Slaughter were about to team up against the Koloffs. Such gossip caused a mild furor 10,000 miles away in the Kremlin dome and resulted in the dispatch of

dozens of clandestine letters and midnight phone calls concerned with how to prevent the formation of the Flair-Slaughter team.

The damage having already been wrought, Ivan Koloff is proud in detailing his work during those tense months of the wrestling cold war. Koloff tells the story in a voice laden with irony and condescension, as he attributes the downfall of the Flair-Slaughter combo not so much to the product of his own handiwork, but to the generally weak and consumptive nature of

*(Continued on page 52)*



# INSIDE WRESTLING'S OFFICIAL RATINGS

## TOP 15

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**  
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**HULK HOGAN**  
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 3—**RICK MARTEL**  
236, Quebec City, Quebec

- 4—**TULLY BLANCHARD**  
235, San Antonio, TX
- 5—**DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX
- 6—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
275, Moscow, Russia
- 7—**TITO SANTANA**  
245, Mission, TX

- 8—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
310, Parris Island, SC
- 9—**MAGNUM T.A.**  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 10—**RICK STEAMBOAT**  
238, Honolulu, HI
- 11—**TERRY TAYLOR**  
225, Vero Beach, FL

- 12—**KEVIN VON ERICH**  
239, Denton, TX
- 13—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**  
274, Sunset Beach, HI
- 14—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
248, Pittsburgh, PA
- 15—**RICK RUDE**  
246, Robbinsdale, MN

## NWA

- 1—**RIC FLAIR**  
243, Minneapolis, MN
- 2—**TULLY BLANCHARD**  
235, San Antonio, TX
- 3—**DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX

- 4—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
276, Moscow, Russia
- 5—**BLACK BART**  
301, Houston, TX
- 6—**RICK RUDE**  
246, Robbinsdale, MN
- 7—**KERRY VON ERICH**  
260, Denton, TX

- 8—**MAGNUM T.A.**  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 9—**ICEMAN PARSONS**  
245, St. Louis, MO
- 10—**HARLEY RACE**  
253, Kansas City, MO
- 11—**BRIAN ADIDAS**  
238, Denton, TX

- 12—**KEVIN VON ERICH**  
239, Denton, TX
- 13—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**  
245, Portland, OR
- 14—**CARLOS COLON**  
246, Bayamon, Puerto Rico
- 15—**RICKY VAUGHAN**  
245, Tampa, FL

## AWA

- 1—**RICK MARTEL**  
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 2—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
310, Parris Island, SC
- 3—**LARRY ZBYSZKO**  
248, Pittsburgh, PA

- 4—**MICHAEL HAYES**  
255, Marietta, GA
- 5—**NICK BOCKWINKEL**  
245, Beverly Hills, CA
- 6—**JIM GARVIN**  
235, Tampa, FL
- 7—**GREG GAGNE**  
220, Robbinsdale, MN

- 8—**KAMALA**  
360, Uganda
- 9—**BUCK ZUMHOFE**  
222, Hamburg, MN
- 10—**RAY STEVENS**  
243, San Francisco, CA
- 11—**CURT HENNIG**  
235, Minneapolis, MN

- 12—**BORIS ZURKHOV**  
254, Leningrad, Russia
- 13—**JERRY BLACKWELL**  
474, Stone Mountain, GA
- 14—**BARON VON RASCHKE**  
271, Germany
- 15—**BILLY ROBINSON**  
246, Manchester, England

## WWF

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**  
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**TITO SANTANA**  
245, Mission, TX
- 3—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**  
274, Sunset Beach, HI

- 4—**RICK STEAMBOAT**  
238, Honolulu, HI
- 5—**RANDY SAVAGE**  
245, Sarasota, FL
- 6—**PAUL ORNDORFF**  
253, Brandon, FL
- 7—**RODDY PIPER**  
231, Scotland

- 8—**JUNKYARD DOG**  
260, New Orleans, LA
- 9—**JOHN STUDD**  
364, Washington, DC
- 10—**COWBOY BOB ORTON**  
245, Kansas City, MO
- 11—**KING KONG BUNDY**  
446, Atlantic City, NJ

- 12—**TERRY FUNK**  
247, Amarillo, TX
- 13—**GEORGE STEELE**  
298, Detroit, MI
- 14—**TONY ATLAS**  
247, Roanoke, VA
- 15—**LANNY POFFO**  
228, Sarasota, FL

## MOST POPULAR

- 1—**HULK HOGAN**  
305, Venice Beach, CA
- 2—**MAGNUM T.A.**  
245, Chesapeake, VA
- 3—**DUSTY RHODES**  
302, Austin, TX

- 4—**KERRY VON ERICH**  
260, Denton, TX
- 5—**RICK MARTEL**  
236, Quebec City, Quebec
- 6—**KEVIN VON ERICH**  
239, Denton, TX
- 7—**RICK STEAMBOAT**  
238, Honolulu, HI

- 8—**SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
310, Parris Island, SC
- 9—**TERRY TAYLOR**  
225, Vero Beach, FL
- 10—**BILLY JACK HAYNES**  
245, Portland, OR
- 11—**TITO SANTANA**  
245, Mission, TX

- 12—**BRUISER BRODY**  
284, Albuquerque, NM
- 13—**HACKSAW DUGGAN**  
280, New York, NY
- 14—**MANNY FERNANDEZ**  
245, El Paso, TX
- 15—**ICEMAN PARSONS**  
232, St. Louis, MO

## MOST HATED

- 1—**TULLY BLANCHARD**  
235, San Antonio, TX
- 2—**CHRIS ADAMS**  
225, Stratford, England
- 3—**RODDY PIPER**  
231, Glasgow, Scotland

- 4—**NIKITA KOLOFF**  
275, Moscow, Russia
- 5—**TED DIBIASE**  
247, Omaha, NB
- 6—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO**  
274, Sunset Beach, HI
- 7—**RICK RUDE**  
246, Robbinsdale, MN

- 8—**RANDY SAVAGE**  
245, Sarasota, FL
- 9—**GINO HERNANDEZ**  
224, Houston, TX
- 10—**OLE ANDERSON**  
256, Minneapolis, MN
- 11—**STEVE WILLIAMS**  
295, Tulsa, OK

- 12—**MICHAEL HAYES**  
255, Marietta, GA
- 13—**KILLER BROOKS**  
235, Lancaster, TX
- 14—**PHIL HICKERSON**  
238, Jackson, TN
- 15—**JACK HART**  
230, St. Petersburg, FL

## TAG TEAMS

- 1—**THE ROAD WARRIORS**  
AWA World tag team champions
- 2—**RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**  
NWA World tag team champions
- 3—**GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**  
WWF World tag team champions
- 4—**CHRIS ADAMS & GINO HERNANDEZ**  
World Class tag team champions
- 5—**OLE & ARN ANDERSON**  
National tag team champions

- 6—**AL PEREZ & WENDELL COOLEY**  
Mid-South tag team champions
- 7—**DENNIS CONDREY & BOBBY EATON**  
No. 1 contenders to NWA tag team title
- 8—**BARRY WINDHAM & MIKE ROTUNDO**  
No. 1 contenders to WWF tag team title
- 9—**WAHOO McDANIEL & BILLY JACK HAYNES**  
U.S. tag team champions
- 10—**JONATHAN BOYD & RIP MORGAN**  
Mid-Southern tag team champions

- 11—**DUSTY RHODES & MAGNUM T.A.**  
No. 1 contenders to National tag team title
- 12—**DYNAMITE KID & DAVEY BOY SMITH**  
No. 2 contenders to WWF tag team title
- 13—**STEVE WILLIAMS & TED DIBIASE**  
No. 1 contenders to Mid-South tag team title
- 14—**STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE**  
No. 1 contenders to Mid-Southern tag team title
- 15—**TOMMY ROGERS & BOBBY FULTON**  
No. 2 contenders to Mid-South tag team title

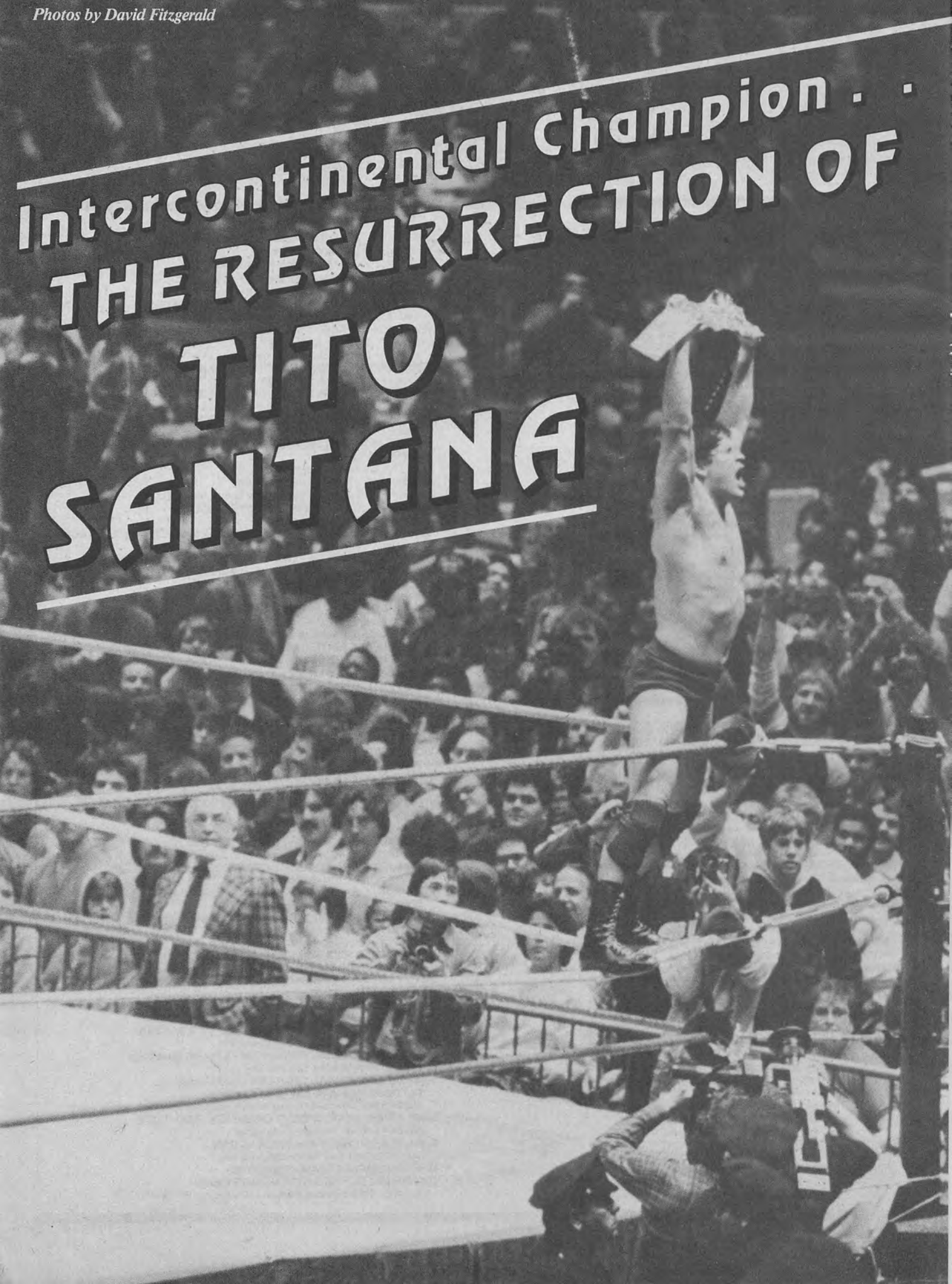


These ratings are compiled by the editors with the assistance of promoters, wrestlers, and reporters around the country, and are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler . . . "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices . . . Championships marked with asterisks on the "Roll Call of Champions" indicate title changes that have taken place since our previous issue . . . The information under the championship listing indicates the date that champion won the title, who the former champion was, and where the match took place . . . Though several Canadian and Japanese championships are listed in the "Roll Call," the ratings themselves reflect United States-based competition. For period ended August 28, 1985

## ROLL CALL OF CHAMPIONS

- ALABAMA CHAMPION: RON FULLER**  
(June 17, 1985; from Lord Humongous; Birmingham, AL)
- ALL-ASIA TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: ISAMU TERANISHI & ANIMAL HAMAGUCHI**  
(July 18, 1985; from Akio Sato & Takashi Ishikawa; Tokyo, Japan)
- AWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: STEVE REGAL**  
(March 25, 1984; from Buck Zumhofe; St. Paul, MN)
- AWA WORLD CHAMPION: RICK MARTEL**  
(May 13, 1984; from Jumbo Tsuruta; St. Paul, MN)
- AWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE ROAD WARRIORS**  
(August 25, 1984; from Crusher & Baron Von Raschke; Las Vegas)
- AMERICAS CHAMPION: SGT. SLAUGHTER**  
(June 21, 1985; from Larry Zbyszko; Chicago, IL)
- CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: DINO BRAVO**  
(May 28, 1985; defeated King Tonga to fill vacant title; Montreal)
- CANADIAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JACQUES & RAYMOND ROUGEAU**  
(June 12, 1985; defeated King Tonga & Dick Charland to fill vacant title; Quebec City)
- CENTRAL STATES CHAMPION: MR. POGO**  
(January 10, 1985; from Harley Race; Kansas City, KS)
- CENTRAL STATES TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**  
(most recently held by Bob Brown & Marty Jannetty)
- CENTRAL STATES TV CHAMPION: GARY ROYAL**  
(March 7, 1985; from Marty Jannetty; Kansas City, KS)
- FLORIDA CHAMPION: JACK HART**  
(July 23, 1985; tournament final over Mike Graham; Tampa, FL)
- IWF WOMEN'S CHAMPION: MISTY BLUE SIMMES**  
(March 30, 1985; from Nickie Ryan; Malden, MA)
- MID-ATLANTIC CHAMPION: BUZZ TYLER**  
(March 16, 1985; from Ron Bass; Greensboro, NC)
- \* **MID-SOUTH TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: AL PEREZ & WENDELL COOLEY**  
(August 28, 1985; from Steve Williams & Bob Sweetan; Shreveport, LA)
- MID-SOUTH TV CHAMPION: BUTCH REED**  
(July 22, 1985; from Dutch Mantel; Shreveport, LA)
- \* **MID-SOUTHERN CHAMPION: TARRUS BALBA**  
(August 16, 1985; from Jerry Lawler; Selmer, TN)
- MID-SOUTHERN INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: PHIL HICKERSON**  
(July 30, 1985; from Terry Taylor; Louisville, KY)
- MID-SOUTHERN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JONATHAN BOYD & RIP MORGAN**  
(June 22, 1985; from Steve Keim & Stan Lane; Memphis, TN)
- \* **MISSOURI CHAMPION: HARLEY RACE**  
(August 2, 1985; from Jerry Blackwell; St. Louis)
- NATIONAL CHAMPION: BLACK BART**  
(June 8, 1985; from Ronnie Garvin; Atlanta, GA)
- NATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: OLE & ARN ANDERSON**  
(May 28, 1985; from T-Bolt Patterson & Manny Fernandez; Charlotte, NC)
- NWA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: JUMBO TSURUTA**  
(August 31, 1983; from Bruiser Brody; Tokyo, Japan)
- NWA INTERNATIONAL JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: KUNIHIRO KOBAYASHI**  
(June 12, 1985; from Dynamite Kid; Tokyo, Japan)
- NWA INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: JUMBO TSURUTA & TENRYU**  
(September 3, 1984; from Bruiser Brody & Crusher Blackwell; Japan)
- NWA JAPANESE JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HIRO SAITO**  
(July 28, 1985; from The Cobra; Osaka, Japan)
- \* **NWA JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: GARY ROYAL**  
(August 15, 1985; from Denny Brown; Kansas City, MO)
- NWA SIX-MAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: IVAN & NIKITA KOLOFF & KRUSHER KHRUSHCHEV**  
(December 1984; first team to claim NWA six-man title)
- NWA TV CHAMPION: DUSTY RHODES**  
(July 6, 1985; from Tully Blanchard; Charlotte, NC)
- NWA WORLD CHAMPION: RIC FLAIR**  
(May 24, 1984; from Kerry Von Erich; Yokosuka City, Japan)
- NWA WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: RICK MORTON & ROBERT GIBSON**  
(July 9, 1985; from Ivan Koloff & Krusher Khrushchev; Shelby, NC)
- \* **NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: DICK MURDOCH**  
(August 10, 1985; from The Nightmare; New Orleans)
- \* **PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAMPION: RICKY VAUGHN**  
(August 3, 1985; tournament final over Mike Miller; Portland, OR)
- PACIFIC NORTHWEST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: KARL STEINER & MIKE MILLER**  
(June 1, 1985; tournament final over Bobby Jagers & Ricky Vaughan; Portland, OR)
- \* **PWF CHAMPION: STAN HANSEN**  
(July 30, 1985; from Shohei Baba; Fukuoka, Japan)
- PWF TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**  
(most recently held by Stan Hansen & Bruiser Brody)
- \* **POLYNESIAN PACIFIC CHAMPION: LARS ANDERSON**  
(August 3, 1985; from Bad News Allen; Honolulu)
- POLYNESIAN PACIFIC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: ROCKY & RICKY JOHNSON**  
(December 19, 1984; from Superfly Tui & Super Samoan Sakalia; Honolulu)
- \* **SOUTHEAST CHAMPION: EXOTIC ADRIAN STREET**  
(August 6, 1985; from Austin Idol; Birmingham, AL)
- \* **SOUTHEAST CONTINENTAL CHAMPION: TOMMY RICH**  
(August 2, 1985; from The Flame; Birmingham, AL)
- SOUTHEAST TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: THE NIGHTMARES**  
(March 23, 1985; from Johnny Rich & Steve Armstrong; Dothan, AL)
- SOUTHEAST U.S. JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: SCOTT ARMSTRONG**  
(July 5, 1985; from Bill Ash; Montgomery, AL)
- SOUTHERN CHAMPION: RICK RUDE**  
(July 21, 1985; tournament final over Mike Graham; Orlando, FL)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**  
(most recently held by Kevin Sullivan)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: TITLE VACANT**  
(most recently held by Paul Kelly)
- TEXAS ALL-STAR TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TITLE VACANT**  
(most recently held by Chavo Guerrero and Al Madril)
- U.S. CHAMPION: TULLY BLANCHARD**  
(July 21, 1985; from Magnum T.A.; Charlotte, NC)
- U.S. TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BILLY JACK HAYNES & WAHOO MCDANIEL**  
(July 9, 1985; from Rick Rude & Jesse Barr; Tampa, FL)
- WORLD CLASS AMERICAN CHAMPION: ICEMAN PARSONS**  
(July 5, 1985; from Chris Adams; Dallas)
- WORLD CLASS SIX-MAN CHAMPIONS: KILLER BROOKS, MARK LEWIN & ONE MAN GANG**  
(July 7, 1985; from Kerry, Kevin and Mike Von Erich; Reno, NV)
- WORLD CLASS TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: CHRIS ADAMS & GINO HERNANDEZ**  
(June 24, 1985; from Bobby Fulton & Tommy Rogers; Ft. Worth, TX)
- \* **WORLD CLASS TV CHAMPION: JOHN TATUM**  
(August 5, 1985; from Shawn Cody; Ft. Worth, TX)
- WORLD CLASS TEXAS CHAMPION: BRIAN ADIDAS**  
(July 29, 1985; from Gino Hernandez; Ft. Worth, TX)
- WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPION: WENDI RICHTER**  
(March 31, 1985; from Lelani Kai; New York)
- WORLD WOMEN'S TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: DESIREE PETERSEN & VELVET MCINTYRE**  
(May 1983; from Joyce Grable & Wendi Richter; Calgary, Alberta)
- WWC JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: INVADER III**  
(January 5, 1985; from Pedro Arguello; Mexico City)
- WWC NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION: HERCULES AYALA**  
(March 10, 1985; from Randy Savage; Ponce, Puerto Rico)
- WWC NORTH AMERICAN TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BUTCH MILLER & LUKE WILLIAMS**  
(January 3, 1985; from The Invaders; Bayaman, Puerto Rico)
- \* **WWC PUERTO RICAN CHAMPION: ERIC EMBRY**  
(August 3, 1985; from Super Medic; Bayaman, Puerto Rico)
- WWC TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: BUTCH MILLER & LUKE WILLIAMS**  
(June 21, 1985; from Invader III & The Medic; Manati, Puerto Rico)
- WWC UNIVERSAL CHAMPION: CARLOS COLON**  
(June 15, 1985; from Dory Funk Jr.; San Juan, Puerto Rico)
- WWF INTERCONTINENTAL CHAMPION: TITO SANTANA**  
(July 6, 1985; from Greg Valentine; Baltimore, MD)
- WWF INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION: TATSUMI FUJINAMI**  
(August 4, 1983; from Gino Brito; New York)
- WWF INTERNATIONAL TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: TATSUMI FUJINAMI & KENGO KIMURA**  
(May 24, 1985; tournament final over Adrian Adonis & Dick Murdoch; Kobe City, Japan)
- WWF JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION: HIRO SAITO**  
(July 28, 1985; from The Cobra; Osaka, Japan)
- WWF WORLD CHAMPION: HULK HOGAN**  
(January 23, 1984; from The Iron Sheik; New York)
- \* **WWF WORLD TAG TEAM CHAMPIONS: GREG VALENTINE & BRUTUS BEEFCAKE**  
(August 24, 1985; from Barry Windham & Mike Rotundo; Philadelphia)

*Photos by David Fitzgerald*



Intercontinental Champion . . .  
**THE RESURRECTION OF**  
**TITO**  
**SANTANA**



# Again!

***Countless insiders dismissed Tito Santana as a viable contender in the WWF. Friends and acquaintances urged him to move on to greener pastures before he stagnated on the WWF treadmill. Tito knew, however, that his endless feud with Greg Valentine would come to a virtuous climax***

**D**O YOU REMEMBER wrestling mania? Dolls and talk shows and press conference hype . . . Yeah, sure, a great deal of the excitement was created by the high-priced press agents contracted by the WWF. No, Mr. T didn't exist, we can forget about him already. Cyndi Lauper's in the studio, she doesn't exist either. But Tito Santana . . .

Masses arrived at the Seventh Avenue lower lip of Madison Square Garden this past 31st of March. Masses arrived, ignoring scalpers and filing into the damp crush accumulating in front of the main entrance. Sliverlike, hands checked carefully at their sides, the fans rolled toward the Garden gates like a multicolored Swanson's dessert spilling over the tray. The snazzy programs with the black velvet cover portraits of Mr. T and Hulk were hawked incessantly, but the lucky man with a fin to spare who bought one soon found dozens of curious fans peeping over his shoulder. Among various and sundry other commentaries, a universal reaction: "Tito vs. The Executioner in the first match? He's had it, man! We probably won't even get in there to see it by 1:30!"

And most of them were right. Less than half of the sellout MSG crowd had the chance to squeeze into their seats in time for the first match. Few of them managed to catch King Kong Bundy's nine-second performance in the second match either. But most of the Garden fans concluded that Santana's opening-match role indicated a lousy deal in the WWF. Not only was Tito wrestling on the WWF's most prestigious card in history before a crowd still looking for their seats, but his opponent was an "Executioner" persona, which, by one of the Execu-

tioners own admissions, is a succession of any number of preliminary grapplers alternating the privilege of wearing that neato mask and losing anonymously.

Tito won handily, and nobody cared. At the time, Rick Steamboat and Junkyard Dog were nipping at Greg Valentine's Intercontinental heels.



Tito Santana controls the action against Greg Valentine in one of his many failed attempts at regaining the WWF Intercontinental title. Tito was about the only one who felt he would regain the championship.

The WWF tag team picture was chaotic and exclusive. A shot at Hulk Hogan was out of the question. Veteran *Inside Wrestling* correspondent Matt Brock, as reliable a barometer of the mat scene as any journalist, advised Santana to leave the WWF in the Oc-

*(Continued on page 54)*

# **Arn & Ole Anderson Challenge Hawk & Animal:**



## **“BRING ON THE ROAD GLORIAS!”**

**When Ole and Arn Anderson wrestled at The Great American Bash, they didn't care too much about their National title defense. They had something greater to prove; they wanted to burst out of the shadow cast by the Legion of Doom**

**T**HE PURPLE-TINGED clouds in the North Carolina sky matched Ole Anderson perfectly; an angry man with a dark countenance who promised thunder. Ole isn't too pleased about much of anything these days, and he had plenty to roar about as he awaited the beginning of the first Great American Bash. Ole and Arn Anderson were due to defend their National tag team title against



Buzz Sawyer and Dick Slater that evening.

Ole stomped back and forth in the close confines of the dressing room, gesticulating wildly with a scrunched-up, greasy-looking hamburger. "Looka this!" he screamed. "I told those jerks to hold the onions! I gotta match in a few hours, and I don't need indigestion!" He went on to colorfully curse the name of a well-known fast food chain until he grew literally hoarse.

The tirade didn't seem to alarm Ole's cousin and tag team partner, Arn, who sat there contentedly munching on some kind of



Arn Anderson puts tremendous pressure on Manny Fernandez's left arm as Ole studies the action from the ring apron (above). Arn forces Manny to the mat where he applies a hammerlock (below). Ole has Dick Slater in agony at The Great American Bash (left).



sandwich overflowing with prickly bean sprouts. "Hell's bells, Ole, any burger's gonna be a bad bet before a match. Why don't you have some of this?" he asked, offering a bite to his older cousin.

Ole just glared at him and mashed the burger into a big lumpy doughball with one meaty fist. Bits and pieces of it fell to the floor, and Ole mailed the rest of it to the nearest wall.

"Health food, haw!" Ole snorted and quickly changed the subject. "What kind of a chicken crap promotion is this if they stick the greatest tag team in wrestling near the bottom of the bill? I don't

care how many 'stars' there are supposed to be here. It's demeaning, and it's a goddamn disgrace!"

Arn recommenced his meal and didn't say anything. In fact, he no more than glanced up at his bombastic cousin, but one could tell that he was paying close attention to everything.

"Tell ya what we're gonna do today, Arn," Ole continued. "We're gonna *destroy*. We're gonna *prove* why the Andersons are known as the Wrecking Crew. I've *never* been so fired up about a match in my *life*! We're gonna prove why we should be at the

top of this bill, and all those stupid fans are gonna get in their station wagons with their ugly brats and drive home talkin' about *us*! Not Flair, not the Russians, not that creep with the moustache, not Tully and Humpty . . ."

A broad grin started to crease Arn's moon face . . .

"And *especially* not The Road Glorias!" Ole laughed ferociously in tune with Arn's silent chuckle.

Ole and Arn were indulging in a bizarre brand of humor that is virtually nonexistent anywhere within 20 miles of a squared circle. They were making fun of The Road

(Continued on page 56)

# HOTSEAT

## BRUISER BRODY:

### "I'M ONLY A MANIAC TO MY ENEMIES!"

**A**S THE GREAT Winston Churchill would put it, Bruiser Brody is a puzzle wrapped inside an enigma. World Class fans were shocked when he recently reemerged in the area in defense of the Von Erichs in their battle against Gary Hart's hated stable, which currently includes Killer Brooks, Mark Lewin, and (tentatively, at least) One Man Gang. Although Brody has enjoyed the support of World Class fans in the past, insiders wonder about the schizophrenic directions of Brody's career. He has wrestled in more regions worldwide than any other active wrestler, but he enjoys fan favoritism in only two American states; Texas and Missouri.

Idle speculation has surrounded Brody like bees on taffy since he moved to the World Class area. Why would such a well-known homicidal sadist ally himself with the beloved Von Erichs? One answer is that he is merely carrying out his vendetta against Gary Hart, begun many years ago when the two split up their managerial partnership due to financial difficulties. Cynics contend that this is sheer gravy to Brody, that the self-confessed mercenary has landed the biggest deal of his career with the Von Erichs, and he'll abandon ship when the money runs

out. Friends of the Von Erichs have warned them of Brody's notorious penchant for betrayal—the most recent of many examples being his pathological attack on partner Jerry Lawler after a tag team match in the Mid-Southern region.

Assistant Editor Jim Schuermann recently spoke with Brody in a typically

“

**I owe a lot to Fritz Von Erich. He cut me a break, he taught me serious holds, he put me across and assured me I was the greatest wrestler in the world.**

”

curious dressing room interview, in which the Bruiser's articulate, pragmatic side alternates wildly with his maniacal persona.

**Q:** Bruiser, you've shocked a lot of fans with your recent alliance with the Von Erichs in the World Class region. What prompted you to aid

the most beloved fan favorite family in wrestling?

**A:** Grrrrr. (Brody's eyes dart about the dressing room. They find a random coat hook sticking out of the wall. Bearing a playful expression, he saunters over to the jutting metal and, with a minute's exertion, pulls it out with his teeth and spits it on the floor.) Does that answer your question?

**Q:** Well, no it doesn't.

**A:** Urrghrrraggh! Hmmmppphh.

**Q:** Look, I know you can speak English. What are you doing with the Von Erichs?

**A:** (Snickering) Making money. Ha! Ha! Grrrr.

**Q:** You mean to say the Von Erichs have paid you to help out with their crusade against rulebreakers?

**A:** (Fondling his curly beard) Not exactly.

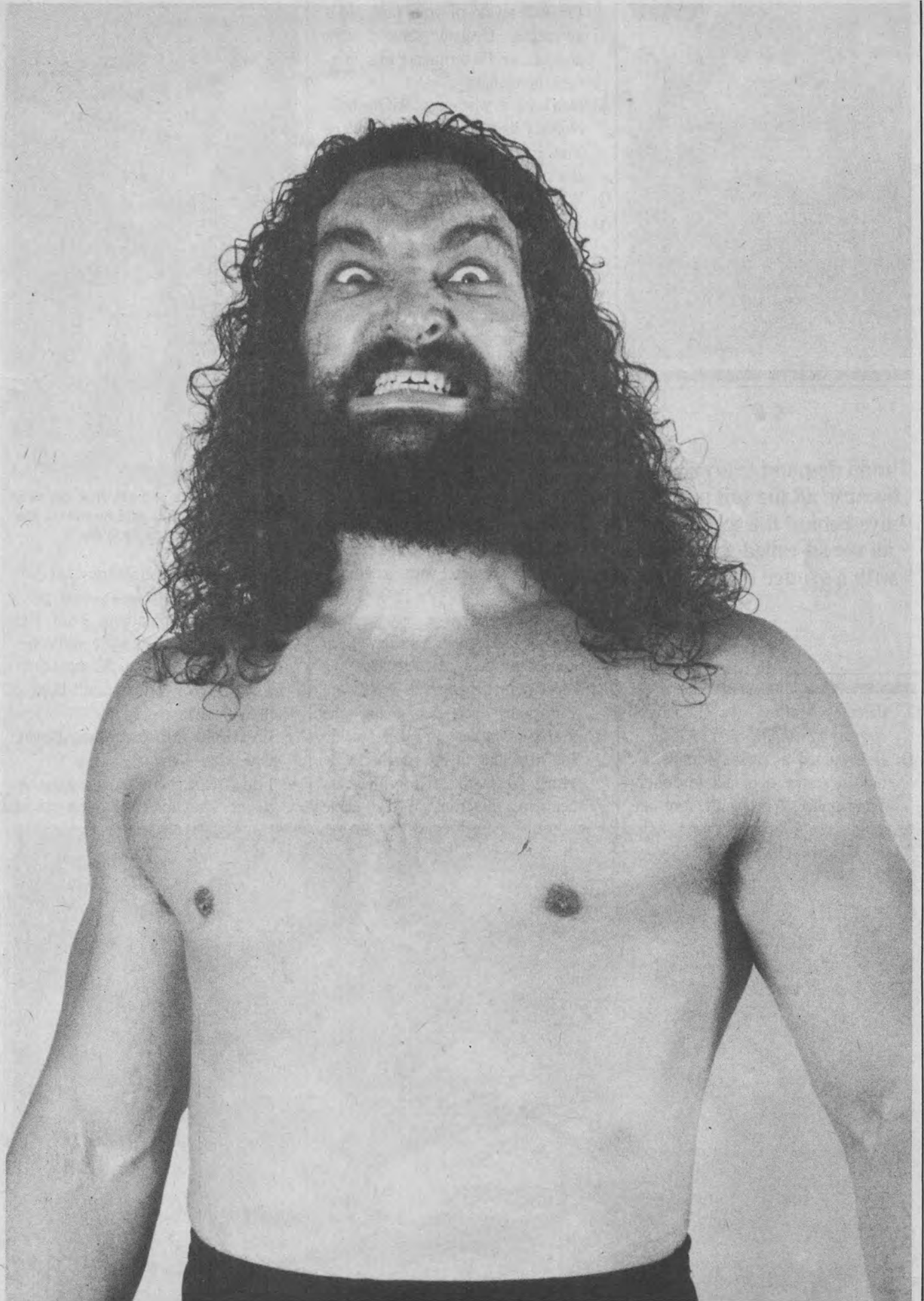
**Q:** Well, what exactly?

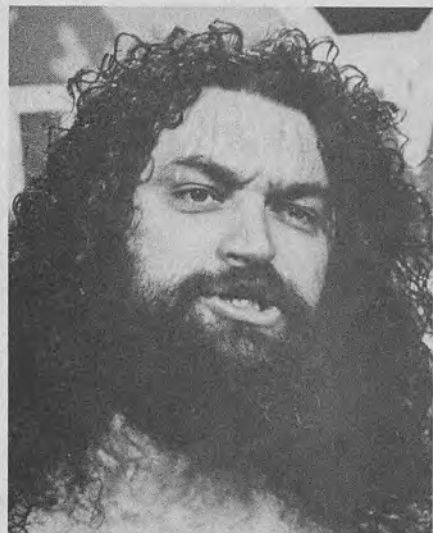
**A:** (Furiously) Grraagh, Skeeex, I owe a lot to Fritz Von Erich. He cut me a break, he taught me serious holds, he put me across and assured me I was the greatest wrestler in the world.

**Q:** You trained with the Von Erichs?

**A:** I didn't train with anybody! I taught myself the manly art of self-







“

**I'm in demand everywhere, because all the suit and tie boys behind the scenes and all the so-called wrestlers with a grudge call on me.**

”

defense! I'm a natural!  
*Rrggarghreehhhh!*

**Q:** If I wanted a Tarzan routine, I'd hold a seance and talk to Johnny Weissmuller. You can't fool me,

I'm well aware of your postgraduate degree. Give me some straight answers, or I'll terminate this interview immediately.

**A:** Don't be a wise guy, skinny boy! Nobody likes a wise guy! Hell, the Von Erich family is close to me. It's obvious, ain't it?

**Q:** Well, it isn't too . . .

**A:** You think I'm a maniac, don't you?

**Q:** No, I . . .

**A:** You better believe it, daddy! I'm only a maniac to my enemies. And my enemies shift gears like a Ferrari with a stripped transmission, you know what I mean? I don't change a bit. They want Brody, they don't want Brody. Who cares? I'm a professional wrestler, the best damn honcho in the sport. I'm in demand everywhere, because all the suit and tie boys behind the scenes and all the so-called wrestlers with a grudge call on me.

**Q:** That brings us to a very relevant issue in your career. You have been accused of being a mercenary.

**A:** *Right! Grrraagghrrrh.* What are you doing here, annoying the greatest wrestler in the world? You're pulling in the paychecks by getting great athletes to embarrass themselves in front of the whole



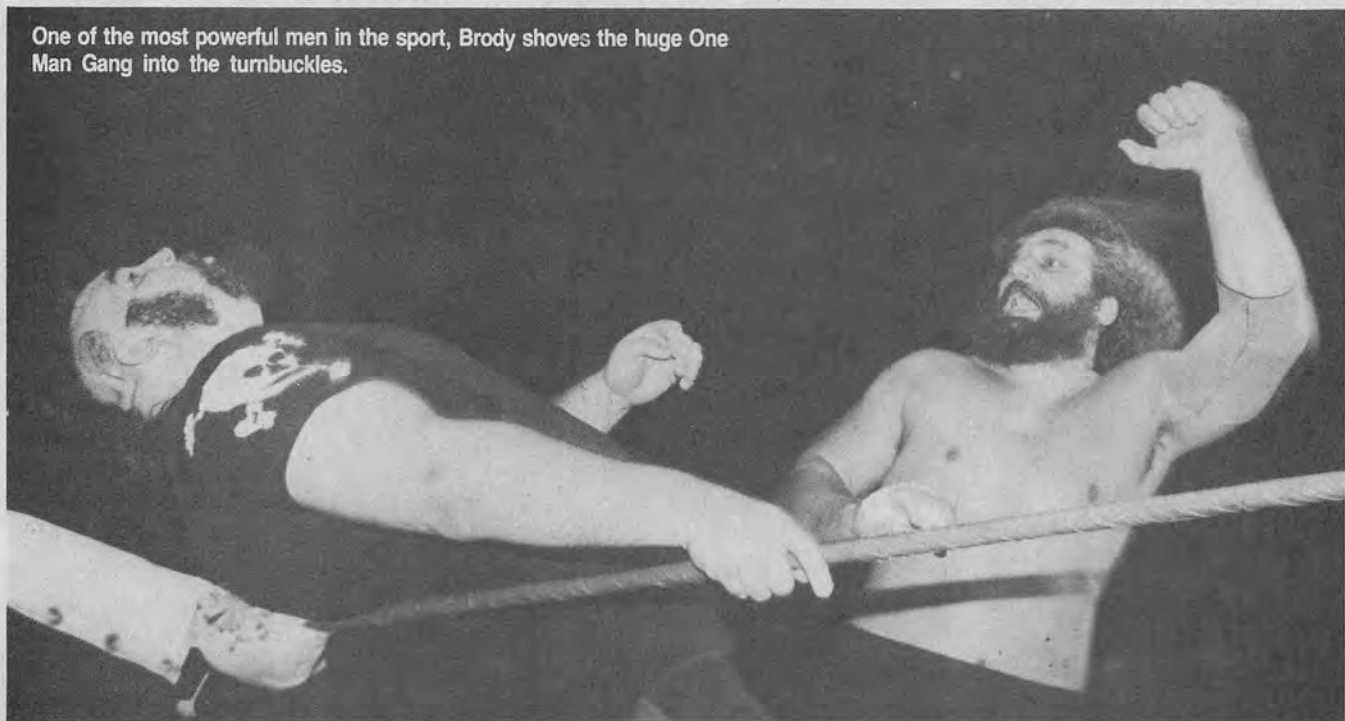
Brody lifts Ric Flair and will drop him face-first to the mat. Brody says he will go after the NWA title when he feels like it.

world. Some mercenaries kill soldiers, some mercenaries—like journalists—kill reputations. Yeah, I'm a mercenary. I eliminate sorry victims from wrestling. If they can't stand up to me, they don't deserve to remain in the sport.

**Q:** Like Killer Brooks, Mark Lewin, One Man Gang . . .

**A:** I don't care. No man can stand up to me. You hire me to get rid of

One of the most powerful men in the sport, Brody shoves the huge One Man Gang into the turnbuckles.







“

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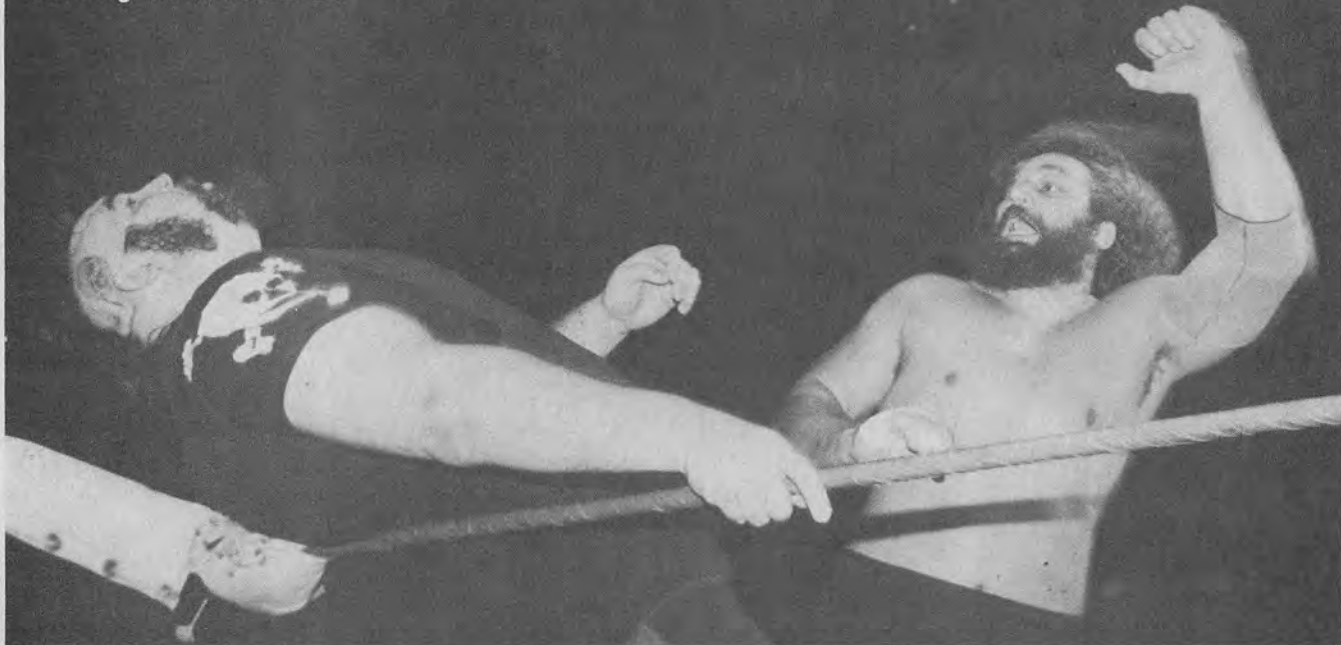
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One of the most powerful men in the sport, Brody shoves the huge One Man Gang into the turnbuckles.





Formerly managed by Gary Hart, Brody became embroiled in a feud with Hart and Hart's wrestler Mark Lewin about five years ago. As the Von Erichs will tell you, Brody is a man you would prefer on your side.

some clown—fan favorite or rule-breaker—I'll do it. I'm the greatest wrestler in the world, and I'm equal to any task.

**Q:** Experts agree that you have the ability to win any number of major championships, including the NWA World title. But you don't seem to want to bother with them. You rarely spend more than a few months in any given region. Why is that?

**A:** I don't give a crap about titles, buddy. Like I've been saying, all I want is the money. I *know* I'm the best damn wrestler in the world. Why do I need titles to prove it? I have *paychecks* to prove it. Do you realize how much money I make in Japan alone? I'm bigger than Wang computers there. They treat me like royalty there, because they know I'm the best that American wrestling has to offer.

**Q:** Do you think any wrestlers have comparable skills?

**A:** (Pause. More contemplative beard-

stroking.) Stan Hansen is the only man who approaches my devastating genius in the ring. No one else is fit to polish my cowboy boots with the oil on their nose. And that includes Flair, the holy idiot of the NWA.

**Q:** The Von Erichs?

**A:** (Smirking) What can I say, they *need* me, right? But they're okay.

**Q:** Does that mean you'll turn on them, the way you turned on Jerry Lawler in your last tour previous to entering the World Class region?

**A:** (Brody crosses the index and middle fingers on both of his hands and holds them up, pressing them against his cheekbones.) Hell, no. *Ha, ha, ha!* I've got a good deal in Texas, and a good deal in St. Louis, too. The fans' cheers there pad my bank account, so why should I change? (Pause.) I'll promise you one thing, Schuermann, I can beat Flair in Dallas or St. Louis or Fort Worth if he swallows his cowardice and signs for a match with me



“

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”

there. I can pin that bleach-head in a city where the fans cheer me, because Nature Boob can't stand the boos. He lost to Race in Missouri and he lost to Kerry in Texas with the fans against him. He's too egotistical—he's stupid enough to need the cheers. Me, I don't care. The NWA belt means money, and I'll take it whenever I desire. But I'm in no big hurry—I'm making a damn good living as it is.

**Q:** How long do you expect to stay in Texas?

**A:** As long as it takes, buddy, as long as it takes. Whenever I move on down the road to clear out a city, I take no prisoners. It *never* takes long, though. They'll be burning candles under my graven image before long. I'm the biggest, baddest honcho in this sport, in all of sports, and that's why the Von Erichs want me. I'm a traveling minstrel of violence. (Pause.) Now go away! □



A black and white photograph of professional wrestler Dick Murdoch. He is shown from the waist up, wearing a white t-shirt with a graphic on the front and a dark cap. He has his right arm raised high, holding a small object in his hand, and is looking upwards with a determined expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

**The Nightmare Is  
Over!**

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**DICK  
MURDOCH  
WINS THE  
NORTH  
AMERICAN  
TITLE**

---

*Many cynics were quick to allege that Dick Murdoch's career was through after he and Adrian Adonis lost the WWF tag team title. Recent events in the Mid-South have proved that the old ranchero has only just begun to write his chapter in the annals of professional wrestling*

**T**HE STATE OF Texas thrives on meat. Good beef, to be specific. The cattle drives of a century past have passed into oblivion, yielding to technology. The details of today's beef harvest are horrifying; claustrophobic pens and carcinogenic hormone shots are daily realities in the slaughterhouse assembly lines. Subsequently, the beef we buy in our neighborhood supermarkets tastes like agony, sour with the pain of tortured bovine souls.

Dick Murdoch is no vegetarian, but he knows about the taste of imprisoned beef. That's why he never shells out retail bucks for his beloved steaks and ribs. "USDA Prime—*phooey!* You can stamp it on my butt. I grow my own, right here on the ranch. I take special care of *my dogies!*" Murdoch never eats any beef that hasn't come from his own massive herd in Waxahachie. Even on the road, he'll settle for grilled cheese when his peers pop for burgers.

If he hadn't chosen a successful route to stardom in the squared circle, Murdoch would have to be considered a cattle baron. He has chosen the life of the wrestler because it lends him individuality and self-sufficiency. The laws of supply and demand, international trade, and surplus proprieties leave him cold. Dick Murdoch will do what he damn pleases with his cattle, and he'll do what he damn pleases with his career.

Murdoch slumped contentedly in a wicker chair on his limestone-colored patio. If the sun wouldn't sufficiently burn your retinas, you could stare at the blinding white of the heat-baked patio and give yourself snow-blindness. Murdoch didn't seem to mind a bit; he was in a relaxed and gracious mood. It was a special barbecue held at his ranch, celebrating his stunning victory over The Nightmare for the North American championship.

His calloused fingers balancing a frosty pint of Lone Star on his am-



Murdoch lifts The Nightmare into the air and offers him a choice seat for their match (above). Already spilling blood, Murdoch tries to rip open The Nightmare's mask and even matters up (below).



ple belly, Murdoch squinted at his groundskeeper, who was taking care of the T-bones sizzling away on three separate charcoal grills. "Mando's been a friend uh mine for purt' near 30 years," Murdoch mused. "I wouldn't trust nobody else with them Waxahachie steaks. Lemme tell ya, he's whipped up a sauce made of green chilies and

tomatoes that'll burn the moccasins right off a wooden Indian," he chortled. "It *ain't* recommended for the weak of heart. Speakin' of wooden Indians, have a cheroot." He plucked a slim black cigar from his shirt pocket and offered it to his guest.

The main house of Murdoch's  
(Continued on page 62)



**The telephone wires sizzle every month as two top wrestlers voice their rage and hostility toward each other. This is the unedited transcript of their conversation, your chance to see the raw emotion that results when two antagonists face off . . . One on One**

# ONE ON ONE



*"Dusty's the only one except Magnum who says I handed Tully a foreign object. I wasn't anywhere near the ring!"*

—Baby Doll

THE WINTER 1985 edition of Wrestling 85 includes a "You Decide" column that asks readers to answer the question, "Do valets have a place in professional wrestling?"

Regardless of the response to that fan poll, it appears that valets will remain a part of wrestling—at least for the immediate future.

Two of the most prominent figures on the valet scene are Sunshine and Baby Doll.

Sunshine was once valet to both Jim Garvin and Chris Adams, but now she has devoted her life to ridding wrestling of such rulebreaking individuals. With the aid of such men as Billy Jack Haynes, Kabuki, Scott Casey, Hercules Hernandez, and Mike Von Erich, Sunshine has waged war over the past year against World Class area rulebreakers such as Gino Hernandez, Mark Lewin, Killer Brooks, and even her former employer Adams.

Nickla Roberts once acted as valet to Gino Hernandez in the World Class area, but she didn't become a major force in wrestling until she became Baby Doll, Tully Blanchard's "Perfect 10." Baby Doll has distinguished herself by repeatedly interfering in matches and habitually providing Blanchard with foreign objects. At the July 6 Great American Bash in Charlotte, North Carolina, Baby Doll temporarily

became the property of Dusty Rhodes as the result of Dusty's cage match victory over Blanchard.

Inside Wrestling brought Sunshine and Baby Doll together to discuss their contrasting views on wrestling . . .

*"One on One."*

#### SUNSHINE:

I'd like to congratulate you on your recent gig with Dusty Rhodes. I hope a man of Dusty's great honesty and integrity taught you something about right and wrong.

#### BABY DOLL:

Let me tell you something, blonde, and by the way, how often do you dye those black roots of yours? Anyway, I

learned something, all right. I learned that Dusty Rhodes has no idea of how to treat a woman, and that he can never hope to be half the man that Tully is. And, incidentally, from the looks of things, you could just about squeeze into Dusty's shorts. Have you ever heard of the words "low calorie," honey?

SS: You got your math all wrong, bubba. Dusty is at least twice the man that Tully Blanchard is. BD: Why don't you just pull in those claws of yours and get serious a moment? Let's look at the facts. You keep saying you're trying to clean up the World Class area. Maybe you should go about doing it with a broom and a mop,

# V ONE



*"All you know is deceit and treachery. All you can do is lie, cheat, and swindle your way to success."*

—Sunshine

because you're not doing so well with wrestlers. Where is Billy Jack Haynes today? Where is Hercules Hernandez today? Meanwhile, Chris Adams and Gino Hernandez are thriving. I say that makes you a failure, sweetie. As for Tully—well, he's U.S. heavyweight champion. Success speaks for itself.

**SS:** I guess you can afford to sit there with an attitude. Most people who ignore the rules and get away with murder have attitudes. Tully Blanchard is the U.S. champ because you handed him a foreign object that he used to club Magnum T.A. It takes guts to play by the rules, Baby Doll, and you'd think that in that big

ol' stomach of yours you'd have some. I guess not, though.

**BD:** You must be reading Dusty Rhodes' press releases! Dusty's the only one except for Magnum who says I handed Tully a foreign object. I wasn't anywhere near the ring!

**SS:** Baby Doll, if you sit in the balcony you're still near the ring!

**BD:** Listen, you bimbo, you want to get into character assassination, that's fine. But I only state facts. I've been with Tully for a long time. But I see you've been with, let's see . . . there's Billy Jack Haynes, the Von Erichs, Scott Casey, Kabuki . . . oh yes, and Hercules Hernandez. He didn't last too long, did he? Talk about

having a stable! You've built up the most worthless collection of ragtag do-nothings the sport's ever seen!

**SS:** You lay off my men, mama. Everyone of those boys served me fine . . .

**BD:** Yeah, I'll bet!

**SS:** A good cause always attracts good men, and . . .

**BD:** How good can they be if they keep turning their backs on you? Face it, girlie, you have a problem with loyalty. As for me, I know for a fact that Tully will never leave me. There's a bond there that goes beyond anything you could hope to understand.

**SS:** Yeah, a bond that begins and ends with the number of zeroes in Tully Blanchard's checkbook. Your only loyalty is to the almighty buck, you Jezebel. Take a family like the Von Erichs. Now there is loyalty. There are bonds. You wouldn't know a friendship if it smacked you in your puss.

**BD:** Friendship and 90 cents will get you a one-way ride on the New York subway, dear. If you think that the only thing that exists between me and Tully is pure business and financial transactions, you're a lot dumber than you look.

**SS:** Yeah, right. How much longer can you live with yourself? Look at that name you walk around with—Baby Doll. That's the stupidest, most degrading name I've ever heard. You're not a woman, you're a mannequin, a dummy. You deserve everything you get.

**BD:** And you're so high and mighty, prissy miss Sunshine? That name sounds like some kind of a warped flower child.

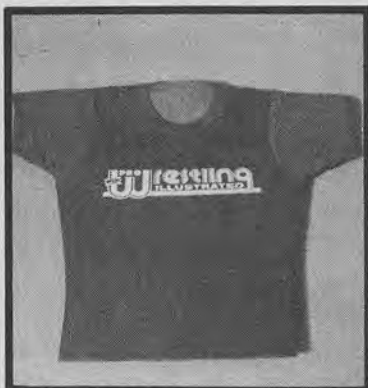
**SS:** You just can't believe that someone can live decently. All you know is deceit and treachery. All you can do is lie, cheat, and swindle your way to success. It'll all catch up to someday. Don't you worry none. It'll all catch up to you. □



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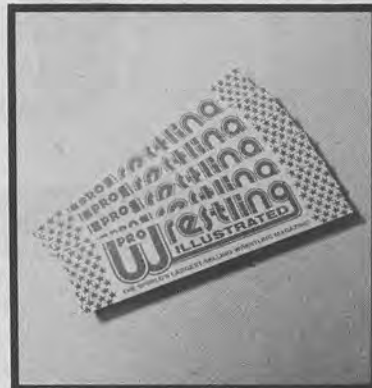
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# SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 6)

hostess Joan Rivers. Hogan gave the impression that he is the number one man in wrestling, which he certainly is not. I'm getting really sick of seeing Hogan's matches and his, "Well, you know, Mean Gene" interviews.

But I can watch a Ric Flair match and interview any day. It's men like Hogan who give the sport a bad name. As long as there are serious and respectable men like Ric Flair, Rick Martel, Bob Backlund, and Kerry Von Erich around, I'll always love wrestling.

BOB PIVOROFF  
Philadelphia

## BROKEN RECORDS

In response to a letter from Bubba Newhouse ("Over Road Warriors") in September 1985 issue stating that The Rock 'n' Roll Express would "come steaming over and roll right over" The Road Warriors, I beg to differ. As an



The Road Warriors have proven to veteran fan Charlie La Fuma that they are the greatest team in the history of the sport.

avid wrestling fanatic for over 25 years, I have seen the best from all over and the ultimates, without a doubt, are these Road Warriors.

Being involved myself in amateur  
(Continued on page 49)

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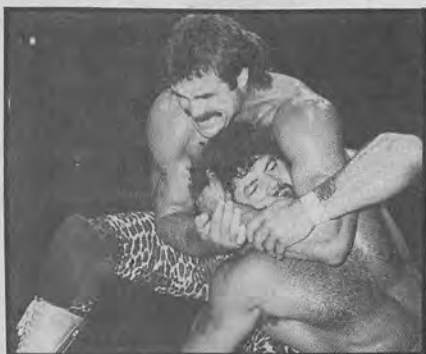
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All this and much more . . .  
in the January 1986 issue of  
*Pro Wrestling Illustrated*

**ON SALE OCTOBER 22**

# SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from page 47)

and collegiate wrestling for nearly eight years, I can recognize that the Warriors might not always display the most scientific of skills, but after their encounter with The Rock 'n' Roll Express, Morton and Gibson will look and feel as if they've been crushed by a two-ton boulder and then run over by a steamroller.

CHARLIE LA FURNO  
Hackensack, NJ

## TAINTED VICTORY

I attended Jim Crockett's July 6 "Great American Bash" and was perplexed over the night's final match: Dusty Rhodes vs. TV champ Tully Blanchard, for the title and the rights to Baby Doll for 30 days. Rhodes, as



Dusty Rhodes disappointed Mid-Atlantic fan Steve Smith by using illegal maneuvers to defeat Tully Blanchard at the July 6 Great American Bash.

out of shape as ever, used a series of blatantly illegal tactics to win the match.

A few days later, I re-read the story in the June 1985 issue of *The Wrestler*: "Next On Dusty Rhodes Hit List—

(Continued on page 50)

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**SINCERELY YOURS**

(Continued from page 49)

Tully Blanchard," and must credit you with your prediction. However, if Rhodes must rely on illegal maneuvers to defeat someone he outweighs by 60 or 70 pounds, then perhaps the Mid-Atlantic promoters should *Take Care of Business* and *Slam That Sucker Down* by stripping him of his title.

STEVE SMITH

Midlothian, VA

### ADVICE FOR THE HACKSAW

An open letter to Jim Duggan:

As one of your most devoted fans here in the Mid-South area, I would like to say something that needs to be



Hacksaw Duggan is advised by reader Lori Treat to pursue the North American title. Duggan would make a fine champion, Lori writes.

said: You need to capture a singles title! Sure, everyone around here knows how spectacular you are, but for your career's sake, I implore you to go for the North American title.

To me, you're one of the greatest grapplers I've ever seen. You're so charismatic. You stand up for what you believe in and for what your fans believe in. You could do anything and I would back you 100 percent. You can win the title and you *must*. Do it for your fans as well as for yourself.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be the North American champion? I think the North American heavyweight championship belt is the biggest and the best-looking belt in professional wrestling today. To see that 27 pounds of gold and silver strapped around your waist, well, let's just say that would be excitement personified. I know that I wouldn't be the only happy one either. Face it, Jim Duggan, you've captured our hearts. Now capture that belt.

LORI TREAT  
Bee Branch, AR ☐

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# Wate-On

## SLAUGHTER-FLAIR

(Continued from page 31)



Both Flair and Slaughter vie for the leverage needed to backslide his opponent. Although the fans enjoyed this encounter between two of the sport's premier athletes, nobody enjoyed it more than Ivan Koloff and the Soviet officials.

the American people.

"Slaughter, he is a case," Koloff begins. "Proud American, defiant Marine, Babe Ruth, and Miss Liberty. Ha! In end, he just like all the others. Greedy. Selfish and egotistical. In the end, he rather have gold belt around his waist than anything else. He is much too jealous of Flair to wrestle with him.

"Nikita and I drop hints around the territory that Slaughter must be scared of Flair. The only reason he left WWF is because he is scared of Hogan, he is scared of being champion. The only reason

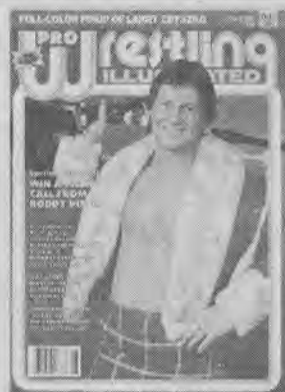
he wants to team with Flair is because he is scared of him, too.

"The truth, it does not matter. What people believe is the truth, is what matters. Ask your Senator Joe McCarthy about what people believe. We in Russia had so much fun with him. We learn from him that American people will believe anything if it is told in certain way."

So, as Sgt. Slaughter and Ric Flair battle each other in arenas throughout the country, Ivan Koloff relaxes in his American-made leather recliner, sipping Swedish vodka, and stroking his Irish Setter, awaiting, from his Mother country, the fruits of his hard-earned blat. There is nothing quite so annoying as a smug Russian. □

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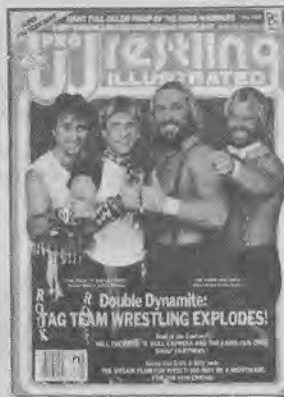
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**JUNE 1985**

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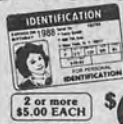
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## SANTANA

(Continued from page 35)



With Rick Steamboat and Junkyard Dog on winning streaks and both gunning for Valentine, Santana had virtually become the forgotten man. Tito has Valentine retreating to a corner (above) and on the verge of being trapped in a figure-four leglock, but until that night in a cage in Baltimore, he had been unable to regain the title.



tober issue of *Inside*. On top of that, rumors circulated that his bad knee, injured by Valentine and repaired by arthroscopic surgery, had worsened and Tito had to take care not to hob-

ble in public. Things looked bleak for the Tocola Tornado.

Then came the steel cage match. Baltimore, July 6, 1985. Tito's last stand.



The bout was a war, a terrible struggle for honor and bonded jewels. Valentine ladled out generous helpings of brutality; he seemed to forget about Santana's knee this time, and focused his attack on generalized homicide. Tito fought back gamely and, when all was said and done, he climbed from the barbarous cage and grabbed the kelly-green belt in victory. He had regained the Intercontinental title. He had proved the skeptics wrong. Jimmy Hart's megaphone whistled in the cigar smoke, Valentine bent the relinquished belt by smashing it against the cage, but neither of them could reverse the final verdict. Baltimore fans had been privileged to witness the resurrection of Tito Santana.

When Santana returned to his dressing room, mangled belt in tow, he sat down and wept. No scene can move a witness more than the replenishment of an athlete's pride. Tito was no longer a premature has-been.

"This is it," Santana announced to a crowded press conference thirty minutes after his victory. "I've heard all the ugly rumors about the shape of my knees, and about the state of my career. Well, perseverance is my middle name. *Arriba!* I'm as tough and as talented as any man in the sport, brother, and I intend to defend this title with the *honor* and *dignity* that scumbucket Valentine didn't bother with."

"How does your knee feel?" a smart-aleck reporter chirped.

Santana didn't flinch. Instead, he stepped out from behind the rosewood podium and did 20 deep knee bends in blindingly rapid succession. "Does that answer your question, bro?" The journalist rubbed the bluish underside of his chin with the cap of his ballpoint and stared into space.

Tito Santana relished the glory of his moment. Spotlit in the most hostile environment imaginable—chilly steel mesh—he regained one of the most influential titles in wrestling, and he simultaneously saved his own career and reputation. The half-hearted smirks have faded—Tito Santana is indeed a champion. □

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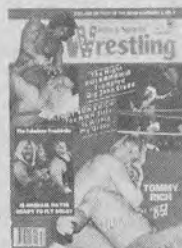


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Warriors. In fact, they laughed about the whole idea of The Road Warriors for several minutes.

Like them or not, few individuals consider Hawk and Animal to be zany funsters. Awe-inspired praise of the Warriors has become virtually trite over the past two years. Phrases like "devastating fighting machine," "fearsome destructiveness," and "unstoppable attack" roll off the tongues of fans and pundits with numbing regularity. Like so many cliches in this world, they reveal truth.

The Andersons, however, display none of the respect and admiration for the AWA World tag team champions that most of their ring peers begrudge. Neither can their attitudes be misconstrued as hollow boasting or sheer idiocy. Ole's massive ego has been nourished by the remarkable success he and Arn have enjoyed since his comeback. Ole has, at this point, ample reason to feel that the 1985 version of the Andersons is at least as powerful as Ole and brother Gene Anderson were throughout the 1970s. The only

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Ole Anderson is certainly no stranger to The Road Warriors. He especially dislikes Paul Ellering and would like nothing more than for the New Minnesota Wrecking Crew to displace the Warriors as the sport's number one team. Teaming with Tommy Rich last year, Ole elbowdrops Hawk (above). Ole twists Thunderbolt Patterson's head in a recent match (opposite page).

team besides the Warriors to twice win the *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* Tag Team of the Year award, they invited many of the same "total destruction" clichés that The Road Warriors currently bask in. Now, in another decade, a rejuvenated Ole finds his team overshadowed by the new sensation. Athletes are, rightly or wrongly, prone to sneer at upstarts who steal their glory.

Another source of Ole and Arn's disrespect for the Legion of Doom lies in their relationship with its manager. As a color commentator with Gordon Solie on the old *World Championship Wrestling* program, Ole engaged in numerous verbal and physical battles with Precious Paul Ellering. Their disagreements centered around Ellering's management of Arn

(when Arn teamed with Matt Borne to win his first National tag team title), and Ole ultimately took over his cousin's career. At the time, Ole remarked that he never hated one man as he hated Ellering, and Ole is a man slow to forget vendettas.

The Andersons marched into the ring in Charlotte only to be met by a punching, kicking onslaught by Buzz Sawyer and Dick Slater. Driven by fierce pride, the Andersons fought back. If ever they did have a chance to prove they could handle the best competition, this was it. Buzz and Dick are brawling fan favorites with a vast reserve of scientific skill; Ole and Arn are rulebreaking ring strategists who know how to brawl. Despite a controversial ending—in which Ole's outside interference led to a pinfall that Sawyer protested as a fast count—the Andersons made good on their prematch promise: The Great American Bash fans went home impressed by them. They only hoped the Legion of Doom was watching. □

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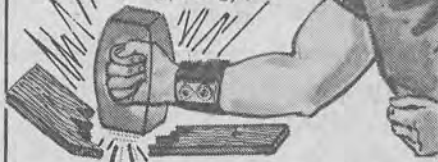
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## DRESSING ROOM

(Continued from page 10)

The Captain warned his wrestlers about the possibility of outside interference, but even with his rule-breaking background, there was no way he could have known what form that interference would take. And he certainly couldn't have covered all four sides of the ring to physically prevent the crimes from taking place. Scapegoat hunting is not in season.

No, I don't blame Capt. Lou directly for those title losses. But I still think Windham and Rotundo would be better off without him.

Capt. Lou Albano is a marked man and anyone who wrestles for him is going to suffer for that fact. The WWF fraternity of rule-breaking managers—including Blassie, Valiant, Mr. Fuji, Bobby Heenan, and Jimmy Hart—do not take kindly to members dropping out of their club and using their abilities against wrestlers in their stables. And that's exactly what The Captain did. Despite their apparent lack of decency, these men have a very strong sense of loyalty to one another. And if a man betrays that loyalty, he is expected to pay for it, either directly (Albano and Blassie were scheduled to meet in a steel cage match as we were going to press) or through his wrestlers.

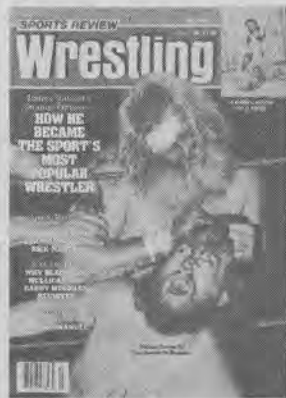
The word along the wrestling grapevine is that these two incidents are merely warnings of what could happen to any wrestlers who associate with Albano. Things could get uglier.

For their part, Windham and Rotundo are not the least bit intimidated. They've been under similar pressure in the past. Soon after they began wrestling as a tag team in the WWF, Windham's father, Blackjack Mulligan, a long-time rulebreaker in the WWF, turned fan favorite. It quickly became apparent that Windham

(Continued on page 60)

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## DRESSING ROOM

(Continued from page 58)



Capt. Lou Albano leads Barry Windham and Mike Rotundo (out of picture) into the ring for their ill-fated title defense against The Iron Sheik and Nikolai Volkoff at WrestleMania (above). Undaunted, the “U.S. Express” would rise to the top once again and run up a string of impressive victories (below). Stu Saks feels the time has come for Barry and Mike to consider letting Albano go.

was going to be made to pay for his father's “betrayal.” The young Texan became the target of some of the most vicious attacks ever seen in WWF rings. Barry knew he was being singled out and he was in danger, but he refused to leave the WWF. Eventually, though, his father did leave the WWF, and before too long the threat to Barry died out.

Capt. Lou Albano, however, isn't going anywhere. As long as he stands in the corner of the “U.S. Express,” Barry and Mike should expect to be on the receiving end of attacks that go far beyond the normal behavior of rulebreakers.

I advise Windham and Rotundo to part company with Albano for the sake of their careers and their



health. Don't expect it to happen, however. The loyalty among the rulebreaking managers pales in comparison to the loyalty of Barry and Mike for The Captain. “Lou will be managing us for as long as he wants to,” Rotundo says. “We'll get the title back, and we'll do it with The Captain in our corner.” □



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## MURDOCH

(Continued from page 43)



Murdoch reaches nearly to the floor to fire a right at a bent-over Nightmare (above). Capt. Redneck puts The Nightmare in dreamland with a right to the face (below).



spread stuck out in the Great American Desert like a stucco monolith on the moon. The barren horizon stretched like a Hollywood fantasy backdated to the birth of Technicolor: pastel sky, unearthly dry soil the hue of an unripe pumpkin. The other guests' voices seemed to gallop off and vanish in the desert quiet. Dick Murdoch's special habitat seemed to humble him; like the rest of us, he was a tiny creature in a land that defied distance.

He began to speak again, coming as close as Dick Murdoch ever comes to a whisper. "Yuh know, a

lot of people are wonderin' about me. They seen me workin' with Adrian Adonis in the WWF, chokin' people with the tag rope, punchin' referees and all. Now I'm hearin' the fans' cheers again, and they know what's right, but a lot of other wrestlers ask me, 'Murdoch, what in Sam Hill's wrong with you? No one's gonna figure you out straight. You keep bouncin' back and forth like tumbleweed, between rulebreaker and fan favorite. In fact,' Murdoch chuckled, "One fella even compared me to Roddy Piper!" Murdoch's hearty whoop at

(Continued on page 64)

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## MURDOCH

(Continued from page 62)



that idea nearly caused him to spill his brew.

Quieting, Murdoch bit his lower lip and furrowed his brow. "I usually don't tell 'em anything in response, but yuh know, I been in this here business long enough to know it don't matter too much what you're supposed to be. I'm a Texan, and we stand for independence. That's how we got there, sheddin' blood in Santa Anna's face 'cause didn't want nobody to tell us who we are. I've always 'rassled the same way—brawlin' mixed with science. I go wherever there's a good fight handy. I went to the WWF with Adrian 'cause the champs [Rocky Johnson and Tony Atlas] were gettin' sloppy and we knew we could take the title. I came down here [to the Mid-South] 'cause I was sick of raw fish and junk in Japan—what do you call it, culture shock?—and our country's been goin' through a heck of a lot of trouble lately, so Capt. Redneck took over.

"And man, Capt. Redneck's always been a part of me, and he always will be. The Captain goes when and where he's needed. Slaughter was doin' the job when I

A bloody and beaten Nightmare is led from the ring. And nobody speaks of Dick Murdoch in the past tense anymore.

was in the WWF. My good friend Dusty and that kid Magnum's doin' the job in the Mid-Atlantic, Buggy McGraw's fightin' for the flag in Florida, Sarge is doin' fine in the AWA now ... but nobody was fightin' Akbar in the Mid-South but Hacksaw Duggan. And when he got hurt, I knew I was needed.

"Besides, I'm better than ever, and my victory over The Nightmare proved to *myself* that I am. Man, that Nightmare—and I think I know who he is, he goes a long way back—is one of the toughest rasslers I ever did come across. And I whupped his butt. With *brainbusters*! It ain't easy to brainbust a fella weighin' purt' near three-oh-oh, but I did it. Now I'm proud to be a champion for America."

Murdoch gazed wistfully out over the Lone Star prairie. "I better check on them steaks now," he said, and walked over to the grills. They looked and smelled good over the coals, grain-fed and absolutely healthy. Dick Murdoch smiled. He was in his element. □

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We wish we could tell you everything... then we **KNOW** FOR SURE you'll respond enthusiastically and immediately. But if we did, there are a number of drawbacks. (1) It would require too much space in this ad. (2) It might affect our ability to limit the number of persons using our idea. (3) We believe having our kit in your hands and evaluating the contents is worth a thousand words in an advertisement like this one which you might read on the run in competition with the interesting contents of this publication. We'd rather send you the kit after receiving your \$10. Then we know you will give our idea all the thought it deserves, knowing that your money is only held temporarily, pending your wholehearted approval of our program.

### It's like owning a money machine and being assured it works or your money back!

Please... if you think we are exaggerating... wouldn't it be foolish for us to do so knowing that we've got a lot to prove? All we have to do is disappoint you just one little bit and we'll have to return your money. But it's the truth... the gospel truth! Our's is a **MONEY-MAKING IDEA** whose time has come. It's **Right ON!** It's as timely as the space shuttle and as much needed as fresh milk! It won't take you long to find out we're telling it like it is when we say **PEOPLE ARE WAITING**. If you think making \$50 an hour is an idle claim, we are deliberately **understating** because you can make more than that if you want to. You can actually decide how much yourself. We're truly anxious for you to try us because we're **THAT** certain that once you do, you will see that we are sincere and we really **DO** have something wonderful for you. All it takes is for you to fill out the form below. You must be of legal age. And you must be on the level and genuinely desirous of making **REAL** money... by being money-minded, ambitious and dedicated to bettering yourself. We want learners and earners and would appreciate it if the "simply curious" would save our time and their's.

### WE GUARANTEE TO RETURN YOUR MONEY ON DEMAND

### Send only \$10 for your kit

AMERICAN SUNRISE CORP. • DEPT. 65Y  
P.O. BOX 788, DEERFIELD BCH., FL 33441

### I want to earn \$50 an hour or more!

I enclose my \$10 and would like you to rush me my money-making kit to give me an instant start making big money right away. Also, added is \$1.00 to cover postage and handling. If I feel dissatisfied in any way, it is my understanding that my money will be refunded right away.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



Now, Even If You Have Been Thin For Years, You Can

# GAIN <sup>UP</sup> <sub>TO</sub> 5, 10, 15 POUNDS

without dangerous drugs, without exercise,  
without unpleasant tasting medicines,  
**MEN**—an impressive manly body,  
**WOMEN**—a curvier, glamorous figure.

If you had started this amazing method just a few short weeks ago, right now you could be up to 5, 10, even 15 pounds heavier or more!

At last, no matter what you have tried, no matter what you have done, if you are a normally healthy person, you can gain up to 5, 10, 15 pounds or more safely, surely, pleasantly, and that's a guaranteed money-back fact.

Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

## HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to meal-times, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs... as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be

## SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE



... a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

## THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear... if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit... embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly... your chest is too flat... your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be... If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh... so fulfilling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

## HERE IS OUR OFFER...

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straightforward offer...

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your

## GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

## MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

Send for the GAIN Plan today. Try it for 7 days entirely at our risk. If, at the end of 7 days, you haven't started to gain pounds and inches and to look better and to feel better... If you aren't convinced the GAIN Plan is a safe, pleasant, way to gain weight, don't keep it! Return the empty bottle and get your money back immediately, no questions asked!

## VITAL NOTE

A current issue of a famous medical journal reports on a recent government controlled study. This study, conducted over a 24 year period on 5,000 underweight and overweight men and women, proves that being underweight is as injurious to health and longevity as being overweight.

own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt... even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and at least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

## MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

**GAIN PRODUCTS, Dept. G30**  
535 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10017

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

- ☐ One GAIN PLAN for \$9.98  
☐ SAVE \$2.00! Order 2 for \$17.96  
☐ SAVE \$5.00! Order 3 for \$25.00

Enclosed is \$

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

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please print

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# WRESTLING'S BEST

Three Great Magazines Bring You 36 Issues Of Wrestling Action And Excitement Every Year!



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The acknowledged leader in wrestling journalism, *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* is packed with exciting stories and action photos. Each issue brings you all the latest news of the wrestling world, and the annual "Year-End Awards Issue" provides a unique and incisive view of the past 12 months, plus a chance for you to voice your opinions on the year's top wrestlers and achievements, in our special fan ballot.

**Special Features In PWI:** Each issue contains a spectacular FULL-COLOR centerfold, plus career biography, of one of wrestling's biggest stars . . . Each issue's "Press Conference" brings you a probing interview with one of wrestling's top names . . . "Wrestling Enquirer" brings you the up-to-the-minute news as of presstime . . . Award-winning columns from wrestling's most respected staff of independent journalists . . . Comprehensive ratings, plus a special page of "Ratings Analysis" . . .

*All this and more—every month!*

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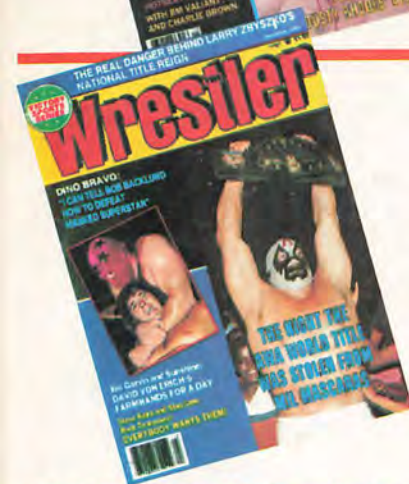
"The magazine that rips the lid off pro wrestling" works hard and digs deep to uncover the behind-the-scenes stories you want to read. Each month, *Inside Wrestling* brings you exclusive coverage of the most volatile topics and issues in professional wrestling today.

**Special Features In Inside Wrestling:** The famous "Hotseat" interview, an exclusive discussion with one of wrestling's top stars . . . "One on One," in which two archrivals voice their hatred over the airwaves . . . Award-winning columns from the best wrestling writers in the world . . . "Where Are They Now?" updates the whereabouts of four top wrestlers . . . "Capsule Profile" provides a mini-biography plus full-page pinup of a major mat star . . .

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*All this and more—every month!*

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